

The Middlebury Campus

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Thursday, December 3, 2009

Since 1905



Saila Huusko, Photos Editor

NOVECENTO MAKES WAVES

Peter Coccima '12 and Ekow Edzie '10 starred in "Novecento," the senior work of Nerina Cocchi '10. The play ran for four nights and adapted the original Italian monologue into a play in English. Review, see page 15.

LIS introduces printing quotas

By Kathryn DeSutter

STAFF WRITER

Starting in February, Library and Information Services (LIS) will enact a new policy establishing a printing quota for students. The policy will require students who exceed the quota to pay five cents per page for each side of a page.

Under the new policy, first-years, sophomores and juniors can print 500 pages per semester without cost, and seniors can print 800 pages. If the full quota is not utilized, it will roll over between semesters, but not between separate academic years.

Mike Roy, Dean of LIS, estimates that students each currently print approximately 800 pages per semester.

"We think that the average cost per student will be roughly \$15 per semester," wrote Roy in an e-mail. "We also think that the amount of printing will go down because of these quotas, so the actual cost will likely be less than that."

Assuming students followed the quotas exactly, around 345,000 pages would be printed monthly — a reduction of 600,000 pages. But, if students continued to print at

current levels, LIS could earn over \$30,000 per month.

"If the average student ends up paying \$30 per year," he continued, "this will generate roughly \$75,000 a year in revenue, which will cover some of the expenses associated with running our printing services."

Printing expenses include resources such as paper and toner, labor for maintenance, and the lease on the equipment.

Students will pay for the excess pages printed with a credit card. For students who do not have credit cards, printing cards will be sold at Wilson Café and other campus locations.

The decision came after much input and discussion from students, faculty and members of the administration. Tik Root '12, member of the Student Library Advisory Committee (SLAC), reported in an e-mail that students on the committee "had a very influential voice" in the decision. Root explained that SLAC is currently pushing for "more faculty inclusion" in the policy, as faculty members also utilize the printing resources. How the policy will apply for students printing for a campus job or a club is

"still being worked on."

LIS administrators are sympathetic to opponents of the policy. In a March blog post, Roy identified with their concerns.

"Why should students who pay upwards of \$50,000 a year to attend our school have to be nickle-and-dimed by being asked to pay for the print-outs that they

SEE SEMESTER, PAGE 2

Liebowitz yearly pay exceeds \$500,000

By Adam Schaffer

STAFF WRITER

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz continues to maintain a salary and benefits package comparable to that of peer institutions despite increases over the last decade.

Liebowitz and Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton note that direct comparisons of total compensation can be misleading, as benefits can often be construed in different manners.

"No one cheats, but they interpret things differently," Liebowitz explained.

Liebowitz's compensation,

which in fiscal year 2007 was \$514,012, includes such things as deferred — and thus non-guaranteed — compensation based on performance goals set out annually. Such compensation is counted twice, thus when Liebowitz leaves Middlebury his total compensation will be reported as a large lump sum payment.

The final number is settled upon after reviewing the pay of peer institutions and meeting with outside consultants. It is not, however, without strings attached, according to Rick Fritz, head of the Compensation Com-

mittee, the body that determines the president's compensation.

"Every year we give Ron [Liebowitz] a set of goals. At the end of the year we have a rather exhaustive performance appraisal against those goals," he said.

Norton said that the Liebowitz's salary increased by an average of 2.2 percent between the years of 1999 and 2008 without adjusting for inflation. With inflation factored in, the increase is half a percent.

If Liebowitz does not meet a goal, and there are not extenuat-

SEE LIEBOWITZ, PAGE 2

ED I fills 45% of Class of 2014

By Kara Shurmantine

NEWS EDITOR

Though a few scattered application materials continue to trickle in since the Nov. 15 deadline, this year's pool of Early Decision I (ED I) applications has largely arrived. The Office of Admissions has already evaluated many of the applications, and will announce their decisions electronically on Dec. 12 following a Dec. 11 mailing.

About 45 percent of the Class of 2013 was admitted from the ED I and II applicant pools, as is typical. However, according to Dean of Admissions Bob Claggett, that percentage could be even higher this year.

"Based on the evaluations

that we have done so far, this pool appears to be qualitatively even stronger than last year's record-setting ED group," said Claggett.

Approximately 665 prospective students submitted applications for the ED I deadline this year, only seven fewer than last year. This number, according to Claggett, is significantly higher than "virtually all" of the number of ED applications for the College's peer institutions.

"That continues to speak well for our popularity as being the first-choice college for so many of our applicants," he said.

Geographically, last year's pool and this year's pool are similar as well; as was the case last year,

about a third of applicants hail from New England and about a quarter from the Middle Atlantic states, with smaller fractions from the South, the Southwest, and the West. A notable difference in this year's pool, however, was that the number of applications from the South this year doubled.

"As always, what determines the number that we admit in ED is how certain we are that any student would also be admitted from the Regular Decision group," said Claggett. "If we are certain that the student would be admitted in the spring, then we admit in ED."

Though Claggett could not be

SEE EARLY, PAGE 3



Nicholas Sohl, Photos Editor

Admissions counselors pore over the applications for the Class of 2014.

Literary power pair to address graduates

By Anthony Adragna

NEWS EDITOR

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn will deliver a joint commencement address to the Class of 2010 on May 23. At an event with an expected audience of 5,000, the couple will receive honorary degrees from the College.

Throughout their 25-year careers, which have spanned the globe, the couple has focused on entrenched problems like gender inequality, global poverty, health and climate change. They became the first couple to win a Pulitzer Prize for their reporting on the Tiananmen Square democracy movement in China in 1990. Kristof later won a second Prize in 2006 for his columns on Darfur.

In September Kristof and WuDunn published "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide," a book that calls the brutality inflicted upon women and girls across the world the 21st century's "paramount moral challenge." Kristof writes a column for *The New York Times*.

Director of the "Meet the Press" lecture series at the College and Scholar-In-Residence Sue Halpern said the couple had agreed to speak

on campus in April before President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz independently approached them about coming as commencement speakers. The Honorary Degree Committee unanimously and enthusiastically approved their nomination.

Liebowitz said the couple will ask this generation to tackle the is-



Courtesy

Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

sue of gender inequality in all its future endeavors.

"Kristof's and WuDunn's exceptional journalistic talents offer us a remarkably clear picture of a major scourge of the 21 century," he said. "By putting the problem in such a stark context, this year's commencement speakers will challenge students, [in] whatever pro-

SEE KRISTOF, PAGE 4

this week



Bus route changes

ACTR considers changes to three local bus routes across the county, page 5.



Let there be light

Dristy Sherestha '11.5 returns home to Nepal with a gift of light, page 11.

New Bearplane album

Philippe Bronchtein '10 releases his new album, "Bearcraft Carrier," page 14.





overseas briefing

by Eric Bartolotti '11

ALEXANDRIA — We, the students of the Alexandria study abroad program, are welcomed in Egypt every day. That doesn't mean that the Egyptians welcome us to Egypt. Rather, they prefer to welcome us *in* Egypt. What's the difference, beyond a preposition?

In Arabic, the English phrase "Welcome to [country]" is translated as "*Ahlan wa sahlan fii* [country]." The literal translation back from Arabic is, "Welcome in [country]." Therefore, when we receive our daily greetings from those Egyptians whose English comes from watching the widespread subtitled Hollywood action movies on satellite TV, we mostly hear the "Welcome in Egypt!" variety (instead of our grammatically accepted "Welcome to [country]").

I say "daily greetings" because these salutations are indeed a daily occurrence, and daily of a magnitude that I did not expect. I knew before coming here that I was not going to blend in — as blondes studying in China or South America also would not blend — but I didn't expect to be vocally reminded so much. (But hear me out, for this is more than a typical tale of a white male from homogenous New Hampshire finally having to deal with "being different").

To our credit, I believe that this phenomenon in is trickier than in many other study abroad locations, even others in Egypt and the Middle East. Simply put, unlike Cairo or Beirut, Alexandria does not see a lot of foreigners.

I also believe that our study abroad group was foolish for not expecting attention like this. We had all listened to the lectures on female harassment in Egypt, and while shouts of "Welcome in Egypt!" do not qualify as harassment, it's a similar product from the same environment.

And, of course, the Egyptians greet us with more than just "welcome" — we also hear "how are you?" and "hi" — but "welcome" sticks with me, because as a classmate said, "I've been here two months and they're still welcoming me." But of course the Egyptians in the street cannot know how long we have spent here. To them, we are foreigners and in Egypt — and especially Alexandria — foreigners are temporary. Foreigners are tourists, and most of the ones the Egyptians see are still in their opening — and closing — week in Egypt, still fair game for "welcoming."

But as noteworthy as we are being foreigners, we are even more worthy of note because *we speak Egyptian*, at least to an extent. This makes the average Egyptian much more interested in us, but more importantly, it lets us hear something other than "welcome." A lifeguard on the Mediterranean coast talked intense politics with me for over an hour. A group of 10 year-olds led me around the zoo. A family in a park told me that I absolutely must sing for them (because all Americans are good singers).

The fact that the calls of "Welcome in Egypt!" have become slightly annoying is testament to the fact that we have passed through the "welcoming phase." We have had meaningful connections with people here, and thus the seemingly meaningless, Middle Eastern-accented greetings just seem silly. But if anyone looks truly silly on Egyptian turf, it's us, and if they want to point that out, that's okay by me. As long as they're still welcoming us.

Semester print quota starts at 500 pages

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

need to make because their professors assigned them 1,000 pages of electronic reserves?" he wrote.

Roy went on to explain that a policy that charges students for printing aims to decrease printer usage. LIS estimates that the student body as a whole currently prints about a million pages per month. If students are required to pay for pages printed, perhaps this will inspire a more environmentally friendly approach to printing and eliminate "unnecessary" print jobs, such as printing multiple copies in order to perfect formatting.

Root believes that it is "reasonable to have a modest fee" for printing.

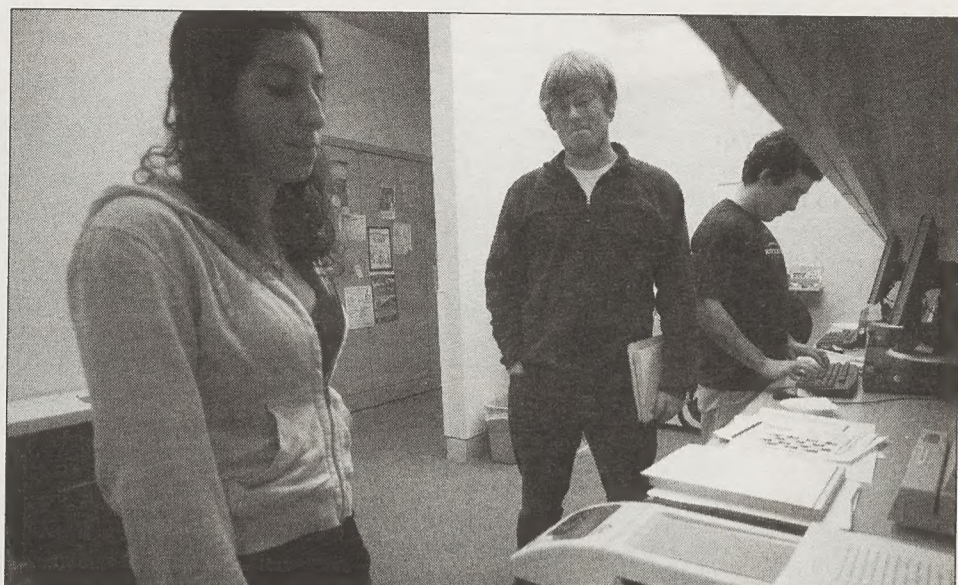
"At first the students on SLAC were fairly reluctant to go along with printing quotas," he said. "But we realized that because the LIS budget is being cut drastically, there has to be something that gives."

Other students disagree.

"I understand why they're doing this, but now this is just something else I have to use my money to pay for," said Melanie Digregorio '13.

Some students report that they need to print documents in order to read effectively, and they view the new policy as punishing them for their study habits.

Root stresses that the goal of this new



Nicholas Sohl, Photos Editor

Students must think carefully about whether or not print as quotas go into effect this spring.

policy is to alleviate costs for LIS, and not to make money. LIS budget cuts have already caused the reduction of regular staff at the libraries and have also led the Student Government Association (SGA) to pick up the cost for keeping the Main Library open 24 hours a day during the week prior to exams.

LIS already instated a paying policy for guests at the College in June, charging each guest 10 cents for each page printed. Guests

are required to purchase at minimum a five-dollar printing card and can only print in black and white at the three libraries on campus.

In theory, the new policy will make the printing process easier by creating shorter lines at the printing stations. LIS has also reported that it is working on establishing a system where students would be able to print from their personal laptops.

Liebowitz's pay remains close to peers'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing circumstances making such a goal unreachable, it is within his contract for his compensation to be adjusted. Such a situation has not yet presented itself, however.

In defending Liebowitz's salary, Fritz noted the difficulties that accompany a career in collegiate leadership.

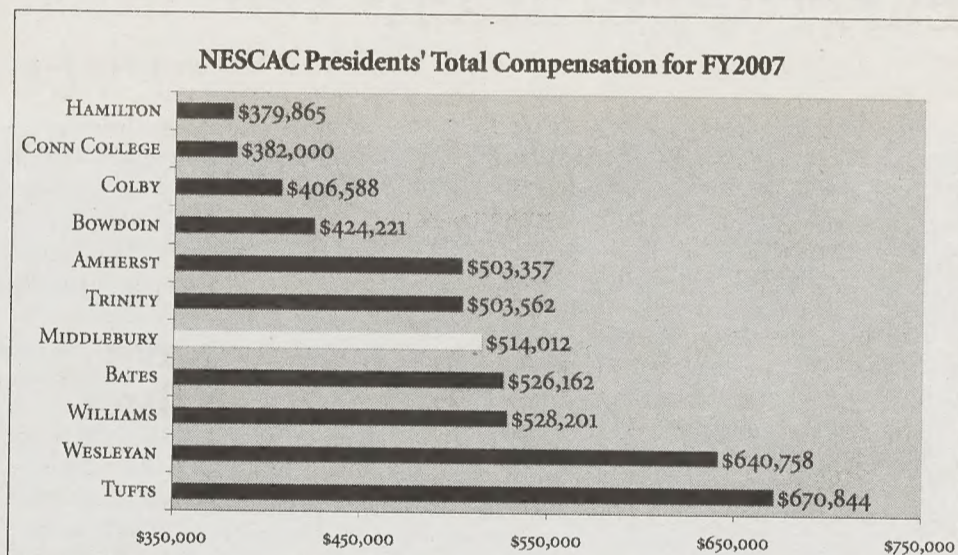
"I think [being a college president is] one of the toughest jobs in America ... it's a 24/7 job," he said.

It is further complicated at Middlebury by the large variety of schools with which the College is affiliated. From the Monterey Institute for International Studies to Middlebury's Schools Abroad to the Language Schools, Middlebury educates many thousands more than the 2,400 full-time undergraduate students in Vermont.

Though he recognizes much of Liebowitz's time is spent managing the College and fundraising, Ty Flynn '11 finds the President's high salary frustrating given his lack visibility on campus.

"How can you raise funds for an institution that you rarely are present at?" Flynn wrote in an e-mail. "How many student performances, exhibitions or shows have you seen him at? In essence, Liebowitz should be rubbing elbows with the Suits as well as Patagonia fleeces."

Looking to the future, Liebowitz predicts that regardless of the economic climate "the president's compensation will be in line with or less than faculty compensation" and marked increases are unlikely. The current plan is for a salary freeze until fiscal year 2012.



Class of 2010 donates scholarship

By Brett Basarab
STAFF WRITER

The Class of 2010 has voted to establish the "Class of 2010 Scholarship" as its senior class gift. This scholarship is an endowed fund designed to provide financial aid to incoming students. It is designed with a preference for international students, who often need large amounts of financial aid.

The Committee has not yet finalized exactly how much money it hopes to raise for the scholarship fund, or how much of the senior class it hopes will contribute. The Committee's e-mail said that fundraising got off to a good start at the recent 200 Days Party, held on Nov. 21 in McCullough Social Space. However, the Committee hopes that much more can be raised in the months to come.

"The Senior Committee is still in the process of determining a participation goal as well as a dollar goal. We started fundraising at the 200 Days Party and will continue fundraising until the end of the school year," said Conetta.

Co-advisor to the Senior Committee and Assistant Director of Annual Giving Jennifer Conetta '10 explained the rationale behind a scholarship specifically meant for

international students.

"The reason for the international preference is due to the increased need for financial aid amongst international students," she said. "The goal of this gift is to establish an endowed fund to support financial aid."

Another factor behind the decision to create the scholarship is the fact that Old Chapel has recently moved from need-blind to need-aware admissions for international students. A need-aware policy means that some international students may not be admitted based on relative financial weakness. Given these circumstances, the scholarship aims to help maintain the number of international students at the College.

"Since we value and cherish the diversity and culture that every student brings to Middlebury, we believe that all applicants deserve an equal opportunity to be considered. For this reason the scholarship has an international student preference," the Committee said.

However, Conetta added that while the scholarship is meant for international students, a domestic student could still receive aid from the fund if no international students are in need of financial aid.

"If the financial aid needs of all eligible international students were to be covered by

other sources, a domestic student could receive funding from the Class of 2010 Scholarship Fund," she said.

Overall, seniors expressed satisfaction with the gift. Many thought the gift was tasteful and appropriate, despite the fact that it is a scholarship instead of a material contribution to the College.

"I don't feel that we need to give a tangible gift," said Glen Frieden '10.

The gift from the Class of 2009, in contrast, was a fund to renovate the Woodstove Lounge in Proctor Dining Hall.

Underclassmen also liked the idea of a scholarship, despite the fact that they will not benefit from a physical gift. Although some found the gift unusual, they generally agreed that it was appropriate since it was for a good cause.

"I know a lot of international students, and I think it's a good experience for them to come here. A scholarship that makes it easier for international students to come here would be a good contribution to the campus," said Teddy Pendergast '13.

"It's an interesting idea that they decided not to go with a tangible contribution," said Amanda Powers '12. "Contributions to financial aid are definitely important, especially in these economic times."

College condenses exam week schedule

By Aseem Mulji

STAFF WRITER

This fall, students find themselves in the midst of a compressed final exam period. This semester's scheduled exams run from Dec. 8 to Dec. 12, and students will have Monday through Saturday to complete self-scheduled tests. In previous years, finals period has stretched across nine days, including a reading day, compared to this year's six days.

"Faculty Council began discussing [changes to exam week] last fall," said Professor of Psychology and then member of the council Barbara Hofer. The Council presented the change to the faculty in February and it was approved unanimously.

"I think many felt it was an overdue change," added Hofer.

According to Provost and Executive Vice President Alison Byerly, finances were not a driving reason for the change.

"This was a faculty, not an administrative, decision," she said.

Rather, the primary reason was a new requirement for faculty to submit semester grades by the end of December instead of after winter break. The shortened exam period will allow faculty more time to finish grading and students more time for break.

According to Hofer, "[The faculty] have very little time between semesters and must also do all their grading in that period, and in many cases, while preparing to teach during Winter Term. Shortening the exam period gives faculty and staff much-needed additional time and the potential for at least a few days off."

Having grades ready before Winter Term is important, especially for those students facing academic suspension.

"In the past, we often had students re-

turn for Winter Term only to find out that they were in academic suspension, and had to turn around and go home," said Dean of Students Gus Jordan. "The new schedule decreases the risk of this unfortunate situation."

According to Byerly, "The new grade deadline also facilitates timely processing of transcripts for students applying to graduate school."

Student preference for earlier exams played a part in the decision to condense the schedule. Byerly noted that students often prefer to leave earlier and "would try to negotiate alternate exam times, creating a lot of work for commons deans and putting faculty in a difficult position when students approached them directly."

For William Martin '11, the change makes little difference, but he did agree that the longer exam period was problematic.

"I think it's fine for me because I'm a science major," he said. "I mostly have in-class exams, and they're done in two days. If some teachers scheduled exams at the beginning and some scheduled them towards the end, then you basically have an entire week of nothing."

Other students, like Emily Rosenkrantz '11.5, welcomed the extra time between exams.

"I loved to have the time between exams to relax and actually enjoy exam week," said Rosenkrantz. "I had the chance to really focus on the four exams and have enough time to enjoy my last couple weeks on campus. I loved exam week. Sleeping, relaxing, regenerating ... it's really valuable time I'm not going to be getting."

As a theatre major taking four theatre courses, Rosenkrantz felt that the shortened schedule will put undue stress on students

with finals in the performance arts.

"There are some things about art exams that have not been factored into this short exam period," she explained. All of the theatre classes end with a performance. As a director, I have actors that need to rehearse all week. With the shortened exam period, there is a good chance that one of them will have exams during the three hours of our performance."

Galen Anderson '11.5 was also concerned about the stress a condensed schedule could put on students.

"I think that it's not fair to students," she said. "While professors have a couple of classes, students have four that they have to balance. Instead of getting a few days to study, we have to cram everything into one short period."

Faculty and administration recognize the negative effects that a condensed exam period may have on students' workloads. However, they also believe that these consequences are self-correcting.

Hofer's concerns about stress "are that this may be difficult in this transitional year but will get easier over time as we get used to the new schedule and both faculty and students [adjust] to it."

According to Byerly, the condensed exam week will naturally encourage professors to adjust the distribution of assigned work throughout the semester.

"Because the shortened exam schedule is paralleled by a shortened period for faculty to complete their grading, we believe that many faculty will assign less end-of-semester work," she said. "The new due date for grades will encourage faculty to assign only the amount of work they can grade by the earlier deadline."

college shorts

By Jaime Fuller, News Editor

Dan Brown tops college bestsellers book list

The number one bestselling book on college campuses this year is "The Lost Symbol" by Dan Brown, according to a list compiled by the Chronicle of Higher Education. Other bestselling books include "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak, "The Time Traveler's Wife" by Audrey Niffenegger, "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith, "Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, "The Wild Things" by Dave Eggers and "Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters" by Jane Austen and Ben H. Winters. The list was compiled from information from 37 college campuses across the country.

— The Chronicle of Higher Education

Advocacy groups push for free speech at college

Academic and free-speech groups are calling on college campuses "to exercise moral and intellectual leadership" and stand up for free expression following Yale University Press decision to remove all pictures of Mohammed from a scholarly book because of fears the images would inspire violence.

A statement from the groups named the decision as one of many recent incidents that "suggest that our longstanding commitment to the free exchange of ideas is in peril of falling victim to a spreading fear of violence."

The statement also expresses a wish that higher education institutions "stand up for certain basic principles: that the free exchange of ideas is essential to liberal democracy; that each person is entitled to hold and express his or her own views without fear of bodily harm; and that the suppression of ideas is a form of repression used by authoritarian regimes around the world to control and dehumanize their citizens and squelch opposition."

Another incident that inspired the organizations to act was the cancellation of a lecture by Ward Churchill at Hamilton College in response to several threats, and the closure of a controversial video exhibition at San Francisco Art Institute last year because of similar threats.

— The Chronicle of Higher Ed.

California raises tuition by 32 percent for 2010

The University of California Regents Board agreed to a 32 percent increase in tuition rates last week, inspiring many students to vocally protest the decision.

Fourteen demonstrators were arrested at U.C.L.A. following the decision, 12 of whom were students.

The student argued that the steep rise in the price tag of state schools would be detrimental to the diversity of the student body.

Maria Isabel Rocha, one of the protesters, said she already juggled two jobs, and that she "might have to take a quarter off to make money to afford tuition."

University President Mark Yudof said that his biggest fear was that the decision would lead to "an exodus of faculty," but that the tuition increase was necessary because the university system received half as much per student in revenue as it did in 1990.

— The New York Times

Early applications remain strong this year

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sure this early in the process whether the economic climate has had an impact on ED applicants' decisions, he said he "would not be surprised if more students for whom financial aid will be an important consideration have decided not to apply ED to a college."

"If they are admitted, they cannot compare their financial packages with those of other colleges," he said.

The addition of Senior Fellows — current seniors who assist the admissions office in giving information sessions, processing applications, conducting interviews and other admissions-related activities — to the process has been a fresh change this year.

"The Senior Fellows have been very helpful to us in the ED process in helping us file the application materials in the proper order in the folder and doing some prelimi-

nary analysis of academic credentials," Claggett said.

"We've been responsible for helping the counselors in many of their projects, even if it's something as simple as answering questions for prospective students or following up with them," said Hannah Burnett '10, one of the fellows. "We also help prepare some

The Senior Fellows have been very helpful to us in the ED process in helping us to file the application materials.

—Bob Claggett

of the applications to be read, so that they're as complete and ordered as possible for the counselors.

Burnett noted that the period between the ED I applications deadline and the decisions announcements is extremely short.

"This is the crunch time," she said. "I pretty much live at Emma Willard."

"ED is always very fast-moving," said

Katie Panhorst '10. "It keeps you busy! It's been fun because it changes up the atmosphere in the office."

Though many prospective students who applied ED I may feel great apprehension as the deadline approaches, Claggett expressed confidence that the admissions decisions for this round of applications will be both painstaking and fair.

"Applicants can be assured that we have a very thorough, labor-intensive evaluation process that helps us make the best, most well-informed decisions possible," Claggett said. He urged ED I applicants who are eventually deferred to "not give up hope."

"As many students here at Middlebury can attest, every year there are some students who are deferred in ED but who are eventually admitted to Middlebury," Claggett said.

Deadlines for both ED II and Regular Decision are Dec. 15 for the Middlebury Supplement to the Common Application and Jan. 1 for the remainder of the application.

SGAupdate

by Jedidiah Kiang, Staff Writer

SGA discusses sober friend policy, OINK

At the Nov. 22 Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, Dean of the Students Gus Jordan spoke about the College's controversial "sober friend" program, clarifying that sober friends were not legally liable for their intoxicated friends. However, when questioned about the unpopularity of the program, he pointed out that being a sober friend or having to be taken care of by a friend was not meant to be a positive experience.

Rather, he explained that the draining experience of being a sober friend was designed to put the responsibility of alcohol consumption back into students' hands, in effect creating a student policing system.

Students would be less prone to overdrinking if they knew that they would have to be closely watched by a friend for the rest of the night, according to Jordan. Satisfied with Jordan's explanation of the new alcohol policy, SGA did not plan any future action concerning the issue. However, the College's decision to close Parton Health Center over the weekends will be debated at later meetings in 2010.

Also on the meeting agenda was the MiddView orientation program, formerly called MOO, which was cut from the College budget in 2008 and replaced with a student initiative called OINK. Earlier this semester, the SGA Finance Committee and

the Middlebury Mountain Club sent out a survey asking students whether they supported renewing MiddView orientation, with a majority of answering students in favor of a reinstatement. Because of this seemingly large level of support, the SGA invited Derek Doucet, director of Middlebury Outdoor Programs, to present a proposal for SGA funding. He suggested that the SGA would fund MiddView over the next three years, with a cost of \$50,000 per year. Most SGA senators seemed to be in favor of the proposal and a bill that would build funding for it into the SGA's financial structure will be introduced at this week's meeting.

Kristof, WuDunn to encourage student activism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fessions they pursue ... to become more cognizant of the conditions faced by such a large portion of humanity."

Kristof said the couple eagerly accepted the offer from the College to deliver the address.

"We've got huge respect for Middlebury," he said. "We're flattered and looking forward to it."

The couple appreciates the College's commitment to engaging in the international community and its encouragement of independent activism.

"Middlebury has been pretty successful at cultivating an international response ethos where students learn from the world and engage it," Kristof said. "That's something I admire and encourage."

WuDunn said this generation works toward making a difference in the world around it rather than waiting for change to happen.

"Students are much more service oriented," she said. "They really feel they want to be proactive about [making a difference]. We're seeing that and we're extremely excited about it."

President of the Honorary Degree Committee David Salem said the couple fights for the citizens of the world using many of the same skills the College teaches.

"This remarkable couple has done much to make life better for many millions of the world's citizens, unborn as well as born," Salem said. "That they've done so by exercising energetically their conspicuous gifts for oral and written communications makes them especially fitting choices as commencement speakers at Middlebury."

Halpern said the couple tackle problems that many others see as unsolvable.

"The fact that the [oppression of women]

is an entrenched problem makes them move toward it instead of away from it," she said. "They turned it on its head. The entrenched problems are exactly what need to be written about."

Kristof uses his column to tackle important issues that few other journalists address because they are complex and do not have easy solutions.

"[He] gives voice to the disenfranchised, whether that's domestic or in some developing country," Halpern said. "He does it very consistently and in a way that actually changes lives. That's a power that a lot of journalists have but very few actually use."

Halpern said the couple will show students where to make their mark on the world

and what they can do with their education from the College.

"As a college, we are committed to making our way in the global world," she said. "This couple should be our mentors. They can tell us what you can do with a liberal arts education."

Kristof began his career at the *Times* in 1984 and began his column in 2001. After graduating from Harvard University, he studied law at Oxford under a Rhodes scholarship. He uses his column to discuss issues like global poverty, health and gender issues. In addition to his Pulitzer Prizes, Kristof has earned the George Polk award, the Overseas Press Club award, the Michael Kelly award, the Online News Association award and the

American Society of Newspaper Editors award.

WuDunn serves as president of the Medley Group, which provides intelligence services to fund managers and leads the development of multimedia relating to the couple's book. She previously worked as a corporate executive at the *Times* and was a vice president in the investment management division of Goldman, Sachs & Co. She was the first Asian American to win a Pulitzer Prize. Other journalism awards include the George Polk award and Overseas Press Club award. She graduated from Cornell University, Harvard Business School and Princeton University, where she earned a Masters of Public Administration.

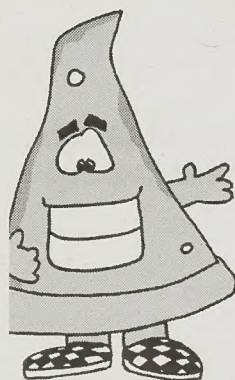
public safety log

November 16 - November 30, 2009

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/16/2009	2:39 p.m.	Theft from public space	Chair	Ross Tower	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2009	6:45 p.m.	Theft from public space	Backpack, including contents	Proctor Hall	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2009	7:30 a.m.	Theft	A pail of eggs	Ross Commons Dining	Referred to Commons Dean
11/20/2009	Unknown	Vandalism	Wall light damaged	Hadley	Referred to DOC and commons deans
11/20/2009	10:00 p.m.	Drug violation	Paraphernalia	Allen	Referred to DOC and commons deans
11/21/2009	2:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Light	Hepburn	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
11/22/2009	12:40 a.m.	Vandalism	Tree by bike	Outside Palmer	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
11/22/2009	12:43 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Hepburn	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean
11/22/2009	12:15 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Fletcher	Referred to DOC and Commons Dean



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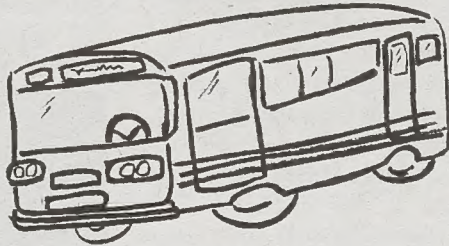
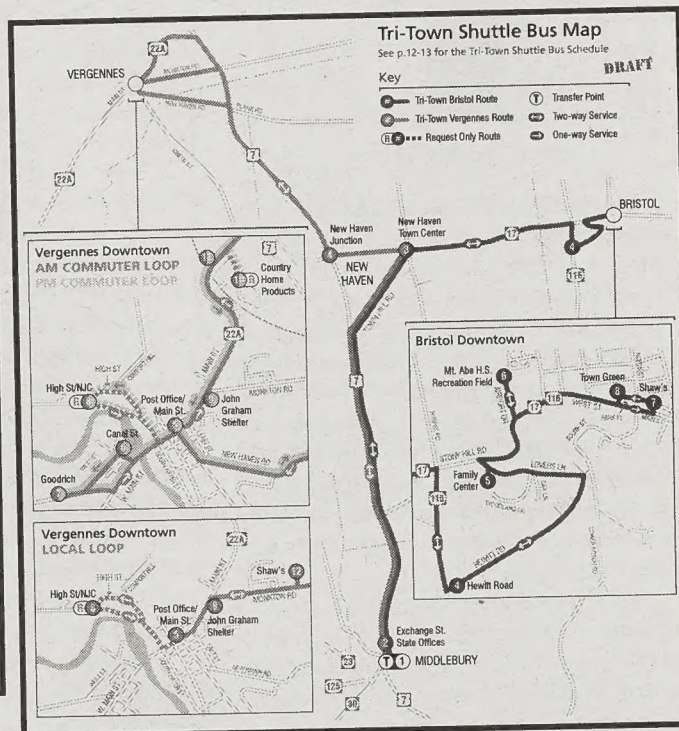
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Textbook Buyback

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Saturday,	Dec. 5,	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Monday - Friday,	Dec. 7 - 11,	8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday,	Dec. 12,	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Monday - Tuesday,	Dec. 14 - 15,	8:30 am - 5:00 pm

At the Bookstore

By Elizabeth Scarinci Local News Editor



1. Split the Middlebury shuttle to make 5 loops around town. The buses would pass every 30 minutes or hour depending on the time of day.
2. Increase service from Middlebury to Burlington to four round-trips on Saturdays.
3. Split the tri-town shuttle route to provide direct service from Middlebury to Vergennes and from Middlebury to Bristol.



Learn the ups and downs of working on the custodial staff at the College, page 7.



town/gown



by Grady Ross

I always get especially sentimental around the holidays. Perhaps it's how they don't change. In my family, the month of December means skiing, cookies, a Christmas tree and my mother's nutcracker collection parading across the mantel in our living room. There are things about the holidays that you can depend on, and I always start to reminisce as Thanksgiving rolls around and the holiday season begins, suddenly aware of how things have changed in the past year, in contrast to how, after so long, Christmas really hasn't changed at all.

Regardless of the reason, Thanksgiving comes and I'm looking at baby pictures and watching "Stepmom" and movies of the tearjerking sort and contemplating life more than is probably good for me.

It was in this spirit that I found myself quite the emotional wreck last week, reflecting on the fleeting nature of our college relationships. I suppose it's inevitable that people come and go from our lives, given our environment. We can't be expected to forever keep in touch with that person in bio lab who lives in Arkansas — not only do I have no desire ever to visit Arkansas, but I find her exceptionally annoying. Annoyance aside, it's sort of sad to think that in two-and-a-half years I'll probably never see her again. We bonded over carbon molecules, for God's sake — surely that means something?

You'd think I'd be used to this by now, what with the disposable college students parading in and out of my pre-college Middlebury.

There was the baseball player and his beer. Every Friday night he was at my parents' store, purchasing a 30-rack and maybe a ping-pong ball or two. It's not that he had such a huge impact on my life or that we even exchanged many words other than:

"\$24.34, please."

"Do you take Visa?"

But there he was every Friday until he wasn't, and then I never saw him again. There were other regulars from the College: the blonde with leather jacket and peach Snapple, the couple that split a vegetarian wrap with Frank's red hot on the side, the squirrely-looking kid on the Atkins diet who ordered Philly cheese steaks sans roll. I felt like I knew these students after a while, and the overly sensitive part of me wants at least a postcard. Is that really so much?

Of course, others have come and gone with a more direct impact. For a while in high school, our assistant ski coach was a Middlebury student. I worked one July with a recently graduated ES major who was spending the summer in town before starting a job in Oregon. Junior year of high school I had a student teacher in my English class who graduated from Middlebury that spring.

Gone, gone, gone.

I don't mean to suggest, however, that our fleeting relationships are too disappointing in the end to be worth the trouble in the first place. On the contrary, I count myself very lucky to have known these students, even for a brief amount of time. Furthermore, as someone who understands the benefits of such interaction, I would encourage people here to find some way to be a part of the off-campus community (you know, with all that extra time you have kicking around). Coach a team, volunteer in a classroom, go down to the cannon and shoot the breeze with the kids playing hooky.

But whatever you do, for heaven's sake, follow up with a text or something. At least during the holidays.

Craft show attracts local shoppers

By Alexandra Kaye

STAFF WRITER

Starting off the holiday season with international flair, the Middlebury Baptist Church held its annual Ten Thousand Villages Craft Sale the weekend before Thanksgiving. Holiday shoppers were able to get a head start on purchasing gifts at the craft sale on Friday, Nov. 20 and Saturday, Nov. 21.

Held in the basement of the Baptist Church in downtown Middlebury, the craft fair boasted a wealth of colorful goods from a variety of far-off places. Shoppers perused silk picture frames, bowls and decorative boxes made from recycled paper, beaded jewelry, pottery, candles and scarves, among other wares, laid out on tables arranged in a circle.

Ten Thousand Villages is a fair trade retailer that was founded in 1946. It works with artisans from around the world to bring their handicrafts to fairs and stores in the United States. Villages is a founding member of the Fair Trade Association and a member of the Fair Trade Federation, working with local artisans in 37 countries.

Artisans especially benefit from Ten Thousand Villages. They are able to set the price for their crafts, receive cash advances when an order is placed and receive full payment once the order is shipped. In addition, they can expect consistent orders from Ten Thousand Villages in the future with no overhead.

Informational note cards placed along-

side the crafts described the goods' origins. Artisans from Peru contributed "retablos," portrayals of religious and daily life constructed from wood, gourds and eggshells. On another table, customers could read about dolls made in Zimbabwe.

The sale was staffed primarily by members of the Baptist Church. Kathy Jewett, an associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the College, has been volunteering at the craft sale at the Baptist Church for 15 years.

Jewett described the craft fair as an excellent opportunity to contribute to a good cause as well as start the holiday shopping season.

"It helps other people and feels good," she said.

Jewett added that the crafts offered are unlike anything else that is sold in the area.

According to Jewett, hand-decorated Christmas tree ornaments and woven baskets are big sellers each year. Customers can also purchase gift cards, which can be used at any of the Ten Thousand Villages' more than 140 retail stores across the nation.

Jewett noted that customers also have the option to have their gift purchases sent to the recipient.

Each year, Villages staff members select, order and ship goods to the Baptist Church based on how much the sale's organizers think can be sold there. The sale's organizers can keep 10 percent of the income. Jewett described proceeds from the sale as being "fairly

consistent," with a large number of repeat customers.

Laura Sturtevant and her daughters, who are members of the Baptist Church, have worked at the sale for about 10 years.

"[We get] a lot of regulars because there is such variety [and] prices are so reasonable," Sturtevant said. The sale used to be held only on Saturday, but the company expanded to Friday several years ago to accommodate more shoppers, Sturtevant explained.

Marilyn Griffith, who lives in Rutland, left the sale feeling satisfied with her purchases. A first-time shopper at the sale, Griffith's impression was that there were "many nice, different items" and that the prices were very reasonable. She had stopped in to "get some ideas" for gifts after seeing the sign advertising the sale outside the Baptist Church.

Mention in local newspapers also drew in customers, including Dave Crockwell and his family. Crockwell was particularly impressed with the variety of items offered for purchase.

Mattea Freeman, a junior at Middlebury High School and a member of the Baptist Church, said she has been coming to the sale every year since she was little.

"I get something for Christmas here each year," Freeman said.

Craft staff members encourage people to get information regarding retail locations, holiday craft sales and online purchasing on the organization's Web site: <http://www.tenthousandvillages.com>.

one in 8,700

where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Lea Calderon-Guthe

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Do you believe in Santa Claus? Thanks to Cliff Douglas, the children of Vermont do. He has been preserving the magic of Christmas, and sporting the big red suit and white beard, since he was in the eighth grade in Rochester, Vt. Fifty-two years later, he no longer needs the red suit for kids to pick him out of a crowd: his own white beard, the twinkle in his bespectacled blue eyes and his round belly give him away, and children come up to him wherever he goes to tell him about their lives and their hopes for the holidays.

"I've always been good with names, and I always try to remember who the children are from year to year," said Douglas. "What a thrill it is to see them grow and tell me about how their year at school went. You can almost see their minds grow on a weekly basis."

For Douglas, being Santa has always been about spending time with the children, and at four hours a day every day during the holiday season, being Santa is no small commitment. He has been Middlebury's town Santa, the Santa at the Burlington Mall, Masonic Halls all over the state and various venues in Vergennes, and he has occasionally done private parties, riding up in everything from a fire truck to a jingle-clad horse.

"It's been a good trip," said Douglas. "You really get to see people the way they are. Some kids are all dressed up when they come in and they look perfect. Other kids look like they've come right out of the barn, but, y'know, kids are kids. They all believe."

During his day job, when he worked at John Hancock Insurance for 35 years after six years in the Navy, he said one of the highlights of being an insurance man and traveling to so many local homes was getting to see more of the kids year-round. Douglas has always bolstered kids' confidence and played games like Simon Says with them, and their children, and now their children's children. That is what he will dearly miss when he hangs up the red suit — this year at least — because of a back injury in April that is still healing.

"I'll really miss the children," said Douglas. "I'm on my third generation, and more, really. I have four generations with one family. Doesn't take long for the time to go by. It's

kind of disheartening to think you could get to the point where you can't do it anymore."

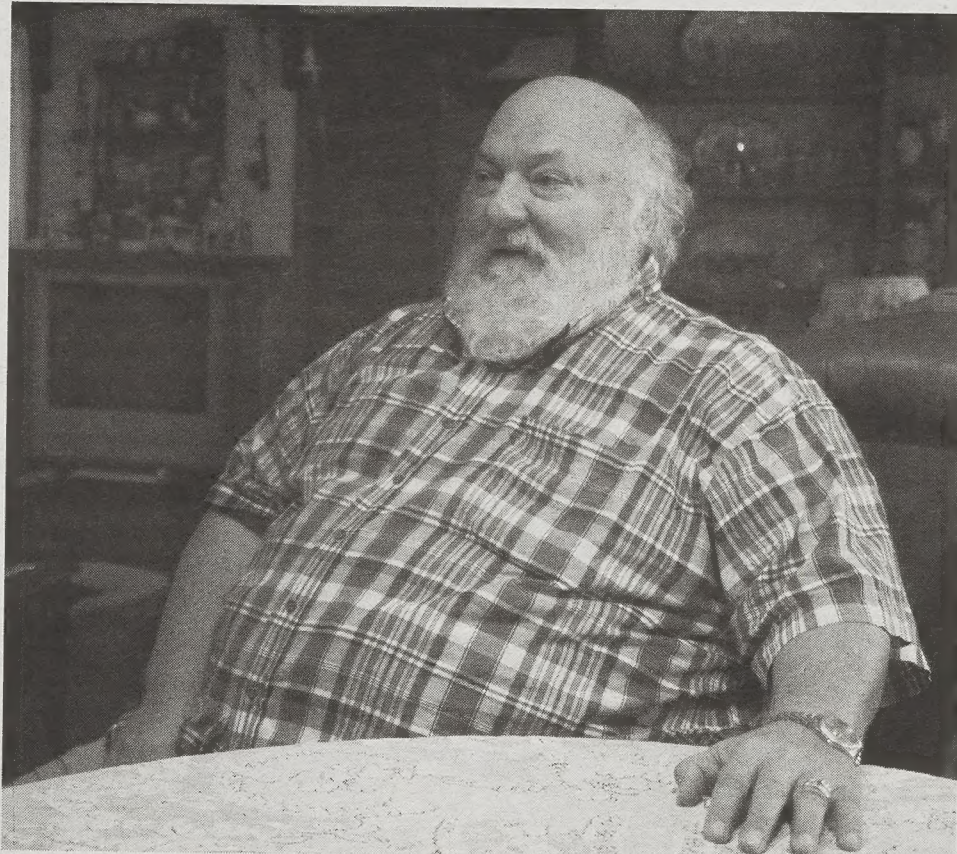
Even though Douglas has to take the year off because lifting the kids into his lap is still difficult, his other hobbies keep him both entertained and close to the kids he loves. In addition to his Santa duties, for the past 18 years Douglas has also put on the face of Bucket the Clown, a Shrine Clown whom he portrays as part of a larger clown troupe in parades all over the country to raise money for the free Shriner Children's Hospitals. When he is not clowning, he is collecting. An avid collector since he was a Cub Scout, Douglas has amassed impressive numbers of model cars, arrowheads, rocks, stamps, coins, trains, old letters and accordions, the last of which he enjoys tinkering with and playing in his spare time.

"There was a man who lived next door to us growing up — my mother didn't like him

because he had a bunch of junk — but he was neat," said Douglas. "He told me, 'Every day, you bring something home, and someday you're going to be a millionaire.' I collect anything I can get my hands on."

As Santa, Douglas has received a lot of fan mail from children in the area, and as a collector, he has kept it all. Stored somewhere among the dusty matchbox cars and cases of model trains, Douglas has kept the many Christmas lists he has received over the years, and somewhere behind his easy smile and jolly laugh, Douglas cherishes those intangible things he has given — confidence and hope — and received — the hugs and radiant grins — that he cannot count. Yet even with such an extensive and heartfelt collection of memories, Douglas remains humble.

"I raised three of my own kids right — I like to think I did something for other people's kids, too."



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Cliff Douglas recalls his favorite stories from his 52-year career as Vermont's most popular Santa Claus while relaxing at his kitchen table.

The Interface



by Andrew Forsthoefer

Jen Anderson wakes up every week-day at 2 a.m. to begin work at 4:00 a.m. as leader of custodial team 7 at the College. The three members of team 7 clean and maintain Hillcrest, the Robert A. Jones '59 House, Sunderland, Chellis House, Farrell House and Gifford Hall. The Sisyphean task of the custodians is arguably one of the most important and challenging responsibilities on campus, yet Anderson's easy laughter and full smile downplay this fact.

Anderson, 47, is a mother of three, a grandmother of one and a lifelong Vermonter. She grew up on her father's apple orchard on Lake Champlain.

"It was right on the lake, so you got to see bald eagles and deer and hawks," she said. "It was such an awesome spot."

After having the orchard in the family for 35 years, Anderson and her siblings sold it in 1999. "It got to be so expensive. It was hard to sell that," she said.

After holding jobs at a diner in Shoreham, Vt., and the Vites and Herbs Shoppe in the Marble Works, Anderson began work as a custodian at the College in 2004.

"It's a really nice place to work, nice campus, good benefits, pay is pretty good," she said.

At the same time, however, Anderson described "the whole custodian thing" that she found hanging over her head.

"Some people just look at you like 'You're a custodian? Oh.' You can imagine," she said, her warm laughter making light of the situation.

I asked her if such disrespectful behavior troubled her. "Well, it depends,"

she said. "Obviously, if people walk by you and..." she shielded her eyes with her hand. "But that's only a few [people]. It's an important job. The College wouldn't be the College [without custodians]."

Anderson is right. The custodians are integral members of our community and it would behoove us to acknowledge them when we see them (to prevent any hypocrisy on my part, I should note that I lived an entire year in Gifford without introducing myself to Anderson. Better late than never, though, I figure). Both faculty and students depend on custodians in so many different ways.

Who reorganizes classroom chairs after they've been moved for meetings or study groups?

"They'll put the chairs in little circles — they love the little circles — or they'll push all the chairs back and it takes forever to put them back," said Anderson, chuckling.

Who has to repair the shattered win-

Even the simplest hello can make a mutually positive difference.

dows and broken vending machines that result from the detestable, destructive machismo of drunken fools?

"Most of the stuff I don't mind, the beer cans or whatever, but when they start smashing stuff, I want to say, 'Have a little respect for the building. It's been here forever.' I want people to have a good time; just don't smash up my building," Anderson said, laughing again.

Who is responsible for stemming the spread of infectious diseases by maintaining the strictest hygienic standards?

"If someone in a suite has flu symptoms, we have to go into the suite and clean it everyday, the kitchenettes and the bathrooms and the doorknobs," Anderson said. "It's like, 'Oh God!'"

I asked Anderson whether she receives the respect and kindness she deserves. "On

the whole, the kids in this dorm are really awesome. You have the really friendly ones, the not so friendly ones. It's a whole gamut," she said.

There are about 100 custodians divided into 13 teams on campus. "We all hate each other," Roger Miro, another member of team 7, said jokingly. "No, it's just like anything else. There are some you get along with and some you don't," Anderson said.

Miro, 43, is tall man with a voice as smooth and deep as Baloo the Bear's in "The Jungle Book." He grew up on Long Island, moved to Vermont when he was 21 and then relocated to North Carolina where he began a successful cleaning business. He returned to Vermont after he got married and became the father of two stepchildren and a daughter.

"I like being able to walk outside and breathe the fresh air, no neighbors. Down in North Carolina it was neighbor, neighbor, neighbor, neighbor. They were all lined up like maggots," Miro said. "The first time I came up here there was a little bit of culture shock."

Miro is a talented guitarist. "If I would've taken the right road, if I wasn't so stubborn, I would've made it a business," he said. I asked him about what he'd

like to do now. "I'd like to win the lottery and just do nothing," Miro said, laughing deeply. "I've been working since I was 12. I just want to travel the world on a yacht or something."

The college custodians are important figures in our lives as members of the Middlebury community. We should reach out and connect with them not just because we are all indebted to them for their constant, difficult work, but also because they are interesting, wonderful people. Even the simplest hello can make a mutually positive difference.

"If you get kids that are really awesome and they talk to you, it makes the day go nicer," Anderson said. "Custodians, on the whole, really appreciate a friendly smile, a thank you, a 'hey-how're-you-doin'?"

local lowdown

Moonlit Alpacas holiday open house

Dec. 3 – Dec. 6, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Don't miss the Moonlit Alpacas Holiday Farm Weekend. Meet the alpacas, take a farm tour and enjoy an introduction to the fiber arts at 2170 Rte. 125 just a few miles west of the College Organic Garden. Bring the whole family for an educational and fun-filled weekend. The Holiday Farm Tour is free to the public and refreshments will be served, snow or shine! Visit <http://www.MoonlitAlpacas.com> or call (802) 462-3510 for more information.

Gingerbread house display opening

Dec. 4, 4 – 6 p.m.

Enjoy some holiday whimsy at the Vermont Folklife Center's opening of its annual gingerbread house contest exhibit. Visit the gingerbread houses any time before Dec. 21. Visit <http://www.vermontfolklifecenter.org> for hours and more information.

Sheldon Museum open house

Dec. 6, 12 – 4 p.m.

Make traditional decorations, enjoy historical holiday activities, see the electric train, eat cookies or participate in the holiday raffle at the annual Henry Sheldon Museum open house. Donations are welcome, but the event is free to residents of Addison County.

Farming in Vermont exhibit opening

Dec. 7, 4 – 6 p.m.

Get to know local farmers from 11 farms throughout the region through this new exhibit at the Vermont Folklife Center. The exhibit is the work of the 45 students in Professor John Elder's Farm Stories class. Join the class and the farmers for the snacks and a Q&A at the opening reception on Dec. 7, but visit the exhibit any time until Dec. 31.

Local Food Summit

Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Take a break from your exams to make a difference in the local food community.

The Farm to Plate Initiative will join with ACORN and the Addison County Economic Development Corp. at the Middlebury American Legion to gather input from the public on the role of local farms and food production in building a more robust local food system by 2020.

Chocolate Walk

Dec. 11, 5 – 8 p.m.

If you're still around on Friday of exam week, Bristol merchants are offering complimentary chocolate treats to customers for the Second Annual Chocolate Walk in downtown Bristol. Businesses will be open until 8 p.m. Follow the map so you don't miss any chocolate opportunities. This event is part of Bristol's Cool Yule festivities. See the full calendar online at <http://www.addisoncounty.com/>

Touch of Vermont Holiday Gift Market

Dec. 12, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Head over to the State Capital for your holiday shopping before you head home.

With nearly 50 Vermont artisans, the Touch of Vermont Holiday Gift Market will be at the Montpelier City Hall. Buy your holiday gifts from Vermont-owned small businesses!



From the Statehouse

11/30 – The Vermont Department of Health recognized World AIDS day in Burlington on Tuesday. The day is designed for Vermonters to recognize those killed by AIDS and support those who are fighting the disease. According to the most recent statistic in 2008, 358 people in the state were living with HIV, the virus that leads to AIDS. On Tuesday, the Department of Health recommitted to delivering HIV/AIDS care and support around the state.

11/25 – Vermont agriculture secretary Roger Allbee recently reminded Vermonters that they can buy everything for their table this holiday season from local farms and providers. He pointed out that Vermont not only has fresh agricultural items, but it also has many specialty food items processed within state borders. Among a few are Bove's spaghetti sauces, Castleton crackers, Laughing Moon chocolates and Bien Fait specialty cakes.

11/25 – About 1,500 members of the Vermont National Guard will be leaving for a year-long deployment in Afghanistan. To recognize their sacrifices, the Vermont Christmas Tree Association will take part in the Trees for Troops program that will donate 400 Christmas trees to military families who might not be together for the holidays.

Holiday

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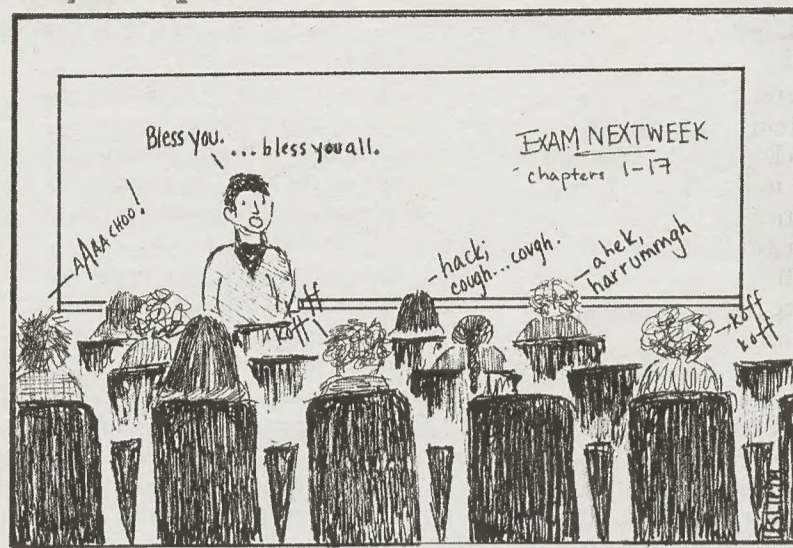
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Notes From the Desk: George Altshuler

Politicizing higher education

I would like to continue the discussion my friend, Jeff Garofano, began in his Nov. 12 op-ed on the role of politics in our Middlebury education. In his piece, Jeff argues that institutions of higher education should remain as apolitical as possible. He takes Stanley Fish's view that universities are "not to be in the social justice business."

My sense is that both Jeff and Stanley Fish make important points but they neglect to address the fundamental roles of higher education in our society — many of which are decidedly political. American colleges and universities would be more effective institutions if they would acknowledge their political nature.

The most common argument for the apolitical nature of institutions of higher education is that students should pursue learning for learning's sake. This is an important concern. Pure intellectual inquiry is essential to both personal well-being and to a good society.

It is important to remember, however, that creating a sphere that is outside the political is an inherently political act; it is a statement against overarching and extremist political ideologies. In fact, I would argue that creating a sphere for pure and free inquiry is one of the most important political acts of liberal democracy. In this way, contemporary institutions of higher education have an inherently political nature as institutions of liberal thought.

Naturally emanating from the present-day university's role as a democratic institution should be an imperative to spread the opportunity of free intellectual thought to as many people as possible.

Historically in America, education has spread liberal values by increasing social mobility. Horace Mann, an important figure in the growth of public education, advocated for state-run schooling in Massachusetts because he saw it as "a great equalizer of the conditions of men."

While promoting social mobility is an important political goal of education, an equally important goal should be to generate civically minded citizens. This is especially the case with Middlebury College, which hopes to educate tomorrow's leaders.

Disenchanted individualists could argue that Middlebury College is a private entity and has little social imperative. I would remind these people that Middlebury is a non-profit institution, but more fundamentally, I would question this person's values.

The student body, faculty and staff of Middlebury should work together to limit this individualistic way of

thinking both in higher education and in society more generally. Middlebury College should be explicit in acknowledging its political nature.

An integral part of the college curriculum and the general culture of the College should thus be to engage with civic values.

Specific examples of how this could occur in the College community include an open discussion on ethically investing the College's sizeable endowment, a community service requirement and community-led social justice initiatives that could create results in the mold of the campaign for carbon neutrality.

Beyond this, our classrooms should also be direct in addressing political questions.

To be clear, the metaphor of the College providing a "toolbox" for forming opinions that Jeff used in his Nov. 12 op-ed has value. The basic idea behind this toolbox metaphor is that professors should provide students with the tools to develop their own convictions instead of indoctrinating.

Aside from instilling basic political values such as tolerance and liberal thinking, I do not want professors to impose values onto us. In recent American history, indoctrination from professors has ranged from neo-Marxist frameworks of consciousness-raising on the left to closed-minded Cold War patriotism on the right.

On the other, however, I do not think there should be a dogma of political correctness that prohibits professors from at times sharing their political convictions. An integral part of developing our toolbox should be learning how to evaluate positions. We as college students should be mature enough to view our professors' political beliefs within a larger context.

A more politically aware College must therefore walk a fine line. The idea is to encourage the College community to be more politically engaged while at the same time fostering critical thought.

Middlebury could do a better job of fostering a more politically active and mindful student body. It could also come closer to fostering intellectual inquiry for its own sake. Ultimately, these two ends are closely related in the present national and international context. A space for pure intellectual inquiry requires a political context, and in turn, creates political imperatives.

GEORGE ALTSHULER '10 IS AN ONLINE EDITOR FROM SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

The cost of printing

Continuing in the trend of budget cuts that have dominated *Campus* headlines for over a year now, the introduction of new printing quotas — announced this week — is likely to elicit a variety of responses from the student body, including eye-rolling cynicism, apathetic indifference and indignant outrage. Indeed, such a spread of opinions could be found within our own editorial office on Sunday night.

However, we urge students to consider the true implications of the printing charge. A quota exceeded by 300 pages, for example, will result in a fee of \$15, less than a few trips to the Grille. This is a relatively insignificant figure in relation to many of the other budget cuts from the past two years, and we are pleased to find several rational explanations behind the change.

The first and most obvious motivation is economic. The charges to student accounts will help defray the costs of toner, paper and other printing materials that have previously come out of the LIS budget. Second, the administration hopes to inspire a sense of environmental responsibility by changing the way students think about printing. Coupled with the fact that Middlebury remains one of the few schools to offer free printing, these reasons offer a logical motivation for the change.

We do find ourselves disappointed that a change affecting so many was made without our input; while we appreciate the involvement of selected students in determining the printing solution, we feel as though the SGA, as an established voice on campus, might better have been consulted.

That said, while questioning changes on campus is our duty as students, those questions should not always turn up a rejection of the proposed change. With this spirit of moderation in mind, we encourage the student body to remain calm and reasonable while this change is implemented, and to offer thoughtful, constructive feedback to LIS once the new system is underway. Compromise and sacrifice are key to the continued vitality of our community, and we are willing to pony up funds for printing under one condition: that we be treated as any other paying customers would and offered an exemplary service. The burden now falls on LIS to better regulate the conditions of printers on campus, which have seemed particularly subpar during the current exam week crunch.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. *The Middlebury Campus* is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS4 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

corrections

On Nov. 19, the headline on page 13 "Finca Alta Gracia: organic farm partners with the College to promote community development" misrepresented the relationship between the College and the farm. No direct partnership between the College and Finca Alta Gracia exists. Rather, two Middlebury graduates are hired each year as fellows, and the funding for the Middlebury grad volunteer fellows is provided by gifts made to the ACE office by a member of the Class of 1987 and the Vermont Coffee Company. *The Campus* regrets the error.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy Where to stick your passion for learning

Last year, I offered my readers unsolicited advice on maintaining an acceptable public image through class participation. This year, I will apply my dubious expertise to the culinary practices that go into baking the cake on which class participation is the proverbial icing. (If you are a science major whose only pleasure in fulfilling distribution requirements is affirming the superiority of your discipline, you have nothing to learn from me/people.)

1. **You don't have a lot of work.** There are obvious advantages to claiming you are busy; the danger is believing it. With the exception of a notorious dullard or two in each department who decides to wage war on behalf of his outmoded generation, Middlebury professors assign very manageable amounts of work. Moreover, few of them expect you to do 100 percent of it. In high school, stupid kids with good memories got away with reading everything they were given and reproducing it verbatim; now, the fittest are determined by the most finely tuned information filters. The liberal arts are based on a small number of universally applicable texts and arguments — they usually comprise your reading for Week 1 — so familiarize yourself and stop wasting time with contemporary paraphrase.

2. **Study sober, relax on Adderall.** As students become aware of how easy it is to feign ADD, the presence of Adderall on campus grows. Admittedly, the effects are impressive, but also easy to replicate with eight hours of sleep, a power nap or meditation. To the best of my knowledge, none of the three suffer from diminishing returns to scale. If you really love that sweet dextroamphetamine, or are a dope fiend looking to trade your liver for your nasal septum, use it recreationally — ladies love a good listener.

3. **You don't want to be a lawyer or a doctor.**

The biographies of educated people from before the 20th century show a remarkable lack of diversity in the studies they pursued — religion, law, occasionally engineering. During first-year orientation, one might think he was transported back in time, but this is the result of limited imagination, not limited choice. I'm not saying you should go wild and major in Environmental/Watered-Down Studies, but try a subject you don't have to pretend to find interesting. At the least, it would spare everyone the nuisance of overhearing you brag about how rigorously you challenge yourself, shabbily disguised

as complaining. When I am financially prepared to endow Middlebury with significant amounts of money, rest assured I will lobby for the Dinner Conversation major (in the meantime, the ES department will return to its home pasture, ninth grade General Science).

4. **You decided to BS that one, eh?** In his deconstructive essay "On Bull---," Princeton philosopher Harry Frankfurt claims that the stuff is a "greater enemy of the truth than lies are," because unlike the liar, whose gained advantage is contingent on concealing the truth, which leaves it essentially unaltered, the bull---er has no regard for the truth at all. In short, Frankfurt describes the underlying principle of

a liberal arts education — prioritizing the approach to content over content itself. So when you claim that this was your strategy in completing a given assignment, it doesn't really distinguish the quality of your effort from any other instance. In other words, you're doing the best you can — and sometimes that amounts to mere BS.

Good luck with exams, enjoy the holidays and you'll hear more from me in January.

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

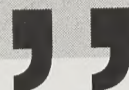
When I am financially prepared to endow Middlebury with significant amounts of money, I will lobby for the Dinner Conversation major.



heardoncampus

Being a college president is one of the toughest jobs in America. It's a 24/7 job.

— Rick Fritz, head of compensation committee



Letter to the Editor: Ruchi Singh

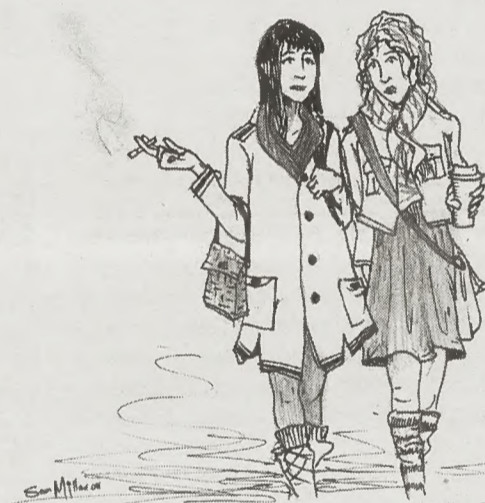
Dear Middlebury Campus,

As a part of Middlebury College's 10 percent international student population, it was quite an unpleasant surprise to see barely any mention of the Annual ISO Show in the *Middlebury Campus*' Nov. 18 edition.

The *Campus*' mention of the ISO Show was restricted to a corner of the first page, featuring a photo from the show. While many on campus talk about the segregation between international students and domestic ones, as a college newspaper, the *Middlebury Campus* should help

publicize our diversity by substantially reporting events such as the ISO Show. Held on Nov. 13 this year, the show was a way to celebrate the cultures of the world — whether Chinese, American, Indian or Ecuadorian. Yes, a picture may speak for itself, but an effort to bring together more than 70 nationalities represented on campus is surely worth a few words.

Thanks,
Ruchi Singh '11



"On the bright side, all this end-of-the-semester Adderall and coffee fits really well into my holiday diet plan."

Archives/Sam Dakota Miller

A Preface to Lunch: James O'Brien Marriage, a.k.a. 'Desperation Psychosis'

Over this Thanksgiving break, my friends from high school and I got together in Boston for a "Boy's Night Out." Of course, we didn't call it "Boy's Night Out" — that would have been embarrassing — but as a graduate of an all-boys Catholic school, any attempt to hang out with friends ends up with us rolling 10 men deep into bars that tell us they would really prefer it if we could get a female to come along next time. I spent most of our night marveling at the fact that, in exchange for little more than providing a couple TVs and a place for strangers to make out, a bar establishment can get away with outrageous 800 percent markups on Pabst Blue Ribbon! I have a more cost-effective suggestion for single people: buy your own case (30 beers included! Batteries not) of PBR at an affordable price, sit down in front of your computer, and then see how many beers you can drink before e-Harmony finds a date for you.

Of course, most people, including Luddites like me, prefer the face-to-face method of sex/relationship hunting — though a surprisingly prevalent reason I hear for this is "I don't want to have to tell people I met my spouse online." Seriously. I've heard this more times than I can count, and at this point my response to hearing such nonsense is to sing, to the tune of Fine Young Cannibals' "Drive Me Crazy," "don't get married!" The reasons for this are simple. We've all heard about the 50 percent divorce rate, and most likely the other 50 percent are so worn out and beaten down from inner turmoil over their life choice that they would never tell you they've made a tremendous mistake.

So, maybe I'm overstating the case a bit here. But think about it. Let's imagine I'm leading one of those weird self-help, get-your-life-together type seminars, and I ask the hundred or so people in the room, "Have you ever been able to stand having one person in the role of your 'significant other' for more than

a year? Two years? Three?" At some point everyone in the room starts shaking their head. Then I ask, "Well, who is planning on getting married?" According to an admittedly small survey conducted among my single friends (and two people who accosted me to sign their Petition for the Environment), 80 percent of the people in this hypothetical seminar would raise their hands, citing the fact that they "haven't met the right person." At this point in the seminar, I would pause a moment for dramatic effect, before then cuing strobe lights and playing on the big

I have spent late nights next to a candle writing drafts of the Communist Manifesto II: Marriage vs. Masturbation.

screen behind me a creepy clip of me pointing at the camera, saying, "That's because the right person isn't out there!"

And before the audience could even say, "Why did you play that obnoxious clip when you could have just told us that yourself?" I'd have hit them with my hypothesis about marriage. I call it Desperation Psychosis. Now, I have no basis for this theory aside from my own cynical views about relationships, but I have spent late nights next to a candle with a leaky quill pen writing drafts of the "The Communist Manifesto II: Marriage

vs. Masturbation." Though these writings bear only a loose resemblance to Marx, they do speak extensively of communal living with a mate.

The anti-marriage arguments are overwhelming. There are psychologists guaranteeing that you'll have to go through whole years where you just don't like your spouse. You'll argue, you'll stop having sex, you'll start secretly screwing the other members of your bridge club... But this is reality, they say. It's full of compromise...

But the thing is, though as an idealist I'd proudly tell my seminar not to give in to the "institution of marriage," non-married life sounds just as terrifying. As far as I can tell, this is the situation we will be faced with in the next 20 years: The longer we wait to get married, the longer we watch all of the good-looking people leave the market. Then all of the sane people leave the market. Then even your hippie girlfriend Sunshine, who promised you she would never, ever get hitched, will be jumping at the chance to legally bond herself to some granola tycoon.

So you look around at the ever-shrinking sex pool and you realize that your options are next to nil. There's no one left! So what do you do? Oh, God, now you're an adulterer! Shame! Guilt! H1N1-esque panic!

Is life really this full of fear after Middlebury College? I presume not. I fear I may be getting delusional in my senioritis months. So I apologize. I didn't mean to bring you down into my own psychosis. But if you continue to look for the perfect person, and you continue to pursue the goal of marriage, all I'm saying is you may want to get that commitment in writing from the guy who agreed to marry you if you were still single by forty.

JAMES O'BRIEN '10 IS FROM MEDFIELD, MASS.

Responses

I can see myself working within a quota because I can see myself paying for it after a certain point. It depends — if a class requires a lot of printing, I think that each class should have a certain quota. A professor should be given a quota too, so that we can work within it. We should have a quota after that, but it should be an exceptional amount, I'm sure someone can figure that out.

—Hunter Chamberlain '12

It depends on the quota. It will only work if the library takes measures to determine a set number of pages for students depending on the number of classes you're taking. Some majors require more pages than others. I'm not very happy to hear it, but at the same time, it's good that we're taking responsibility for our waste. I see that people print stuff that they don't really have to print. I'm not sure yet; I'd have to see about the quota.

—Rosa Saavedra '10

It's kind of ridiculous that, in addition to what we already pay to go here, we also pay for printing. It's required for school, so it's unnecessary that we pay out of our own pocket.

—Michael Hilgendorf '13

I'm not happy about it, because I'm a person who needs to print out papers and articles in order to read them and really understand them. I have extensive readings that I wouldn't have comprehended as well if I had just read them off of a screen, and as it is, we do pay a large comprehensive fee.

—Sara Cohen '12

I'm not really happy at the possibility of paying for printing, but I guess I'm trying to reduce my printing since I don't want to pay my fees. I think sustainability is important, but I don't think paying is the best way to reduce printing. I think the printing system itself needs to be improved as well — there are printers that have the default setting as printing one sided. Also, the printing system itself can be problematic in terms of efficiency — sometimes printers break down, and I realize it's hard, but clearly there are problems that need to be fixed. Another problem is that sometimes teachers demand that we print things out when it could easily just be submitted by e-mail or something like that.

—Ralph Acevedo '11

The Campus Poll

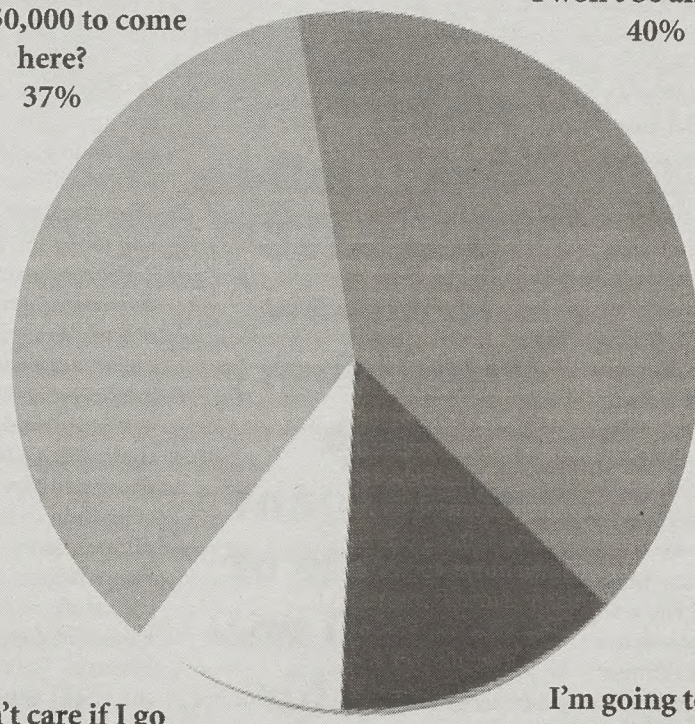
How do you feel about having to pay for printing starting in February?

I'm not happy about the possibility of paying for printing. Don't we already pay \$50,000 to come here?
37%

I can't see myself breaking the quota, so I won't be affected.
40%

I don't care if I go over the quota, and I don't mind paying.
10%

I'm going to try to reduce my printing, I don't want to pay the fees.
13%



Sample Size: 28



Have an opinion? Share it!

Submissions to
campus@middlebury.edu

Red, Right and Blue: Rachel Pagano

The education of freedom of thought

It is the purpose of this column, and a responsibility I take very seriously, to represent the conservative voice on campus (a voice which is sometimes sadly lacking from much of the discourse represented on this campus). However, this week I am going to stray slightly from my usual topics in order to address a topic I feel almost as passionately about as politics and which, I believe, is even more important to true learning: a liberal arts education.

In the last few weeks, there have been whispers of the school taking a new direction in terms of the educational experience it offers. The reasons given for this are the financial problems, caused by the global economic crisis and the eternal worry of preparing students for their future lives in some career or another. These are, of course, extremely important considerations. Economic problems have affected everyone, causing us all to make some compromises in order to weather it, and as someone who is currently looking rather grimly into the future of job markets, the idea of marketable skills is extremely alluring. However, the reason we have all come to a place like Middlebury is not merely to be able to be hired for the job we want. It is something more: we have come here to be educated. Education is something deeper than the readiness for a career: it is the reordering, the organization of the mind and the soul. Or, at least, it is if done properly.

In coming to Middlebury, we as students have put our faith in this college that it will rightly re-order our souls allowing us to become, better, happier and more full human beings. In the reorganization of the soul, education seeps through to every part of our identities, informing our future lives in all of their facets: from the most ordinary of readiness for career, to readiness for family, friends, politics, religion and even death. Thus, in arguing for an education that will give us a career alone, we are cutting short the entire idea of education. We are pretending that the career is the only human goal which requires education

when, in reality, it may be the one which requires the least.

We are pretending that the career is the only human goal which requires education when, in reality, it may be the one which requires the least.

puts it in Plato's Republic, "bedness" from a particular bed. This allows us to be conscious of truth, goodness, beauty, etc. We alone make these things the purposes of our lives inasmuch as we judge one another by them, hold them sacred and even contemplate beings such as gods who are made from them. We need education not so that, like all other beasts, we can serve but so that we can rise above mere survival into the realms of thought. Liberal education, as opposed to all other educational forms, teaches us to think. And it is thought that allows us to be happy in the things that we pursue whether that be family,

career or the fulfillment of some other goal.

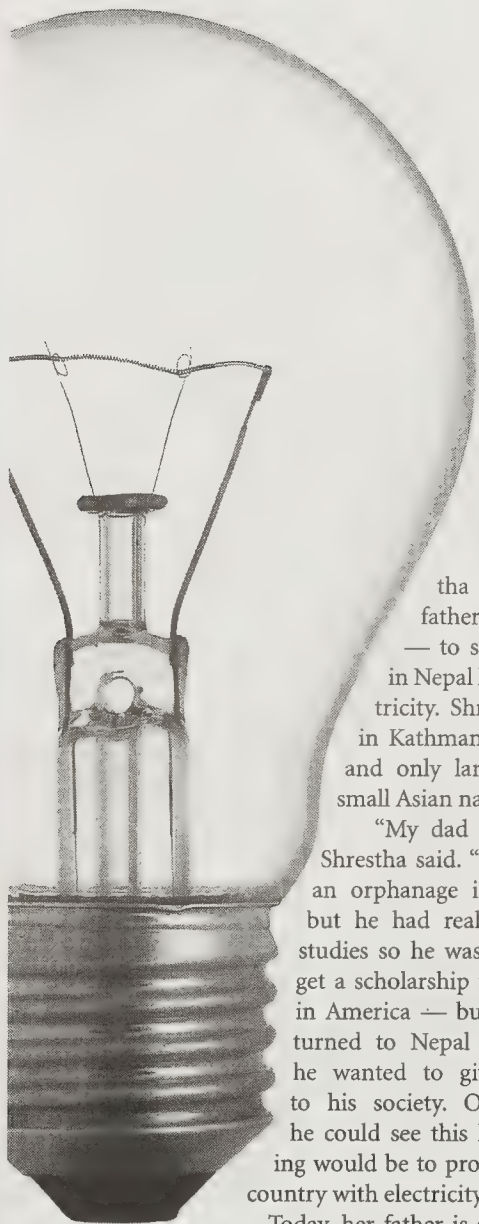
The facility for thought is not instilled in people through instruction in one particular subject, it is instilled by the *** of many subjects. It becomes part of us as we are taught what it means to learn, to discern what we believe and disbelieve, like and dislike. It is the connection of many different kinds of thought into one — it is the mixing of the scientific, the historical and the study of character, the ingenuities of language and many more elements of understanding into one synthesis, which is able to contemplate anything. It is not knowledge *per se*, it is the ability to gain knowledge. And this is the difference between vocational education and liberal education as well. While one may give you particular knowledge, the other gives you the ability to gain any knowledge. Particular knowledge can always be gained, while there comes a time when the mind and the soul have become too developed in chaos for them to suddenly become organized. It is therefore our great good fortune that we have been given this chance to learn to think — to become truly educated.

I began this column with a comment of my duty as one of a minority of conservatives, my duty to express our views. I believe this to be a duty not only for the sake of that minority, but for the majority as well. It is part of liberal arts education to experience conflicting views, for choosing between them is a part of learning to think. Therefore, I believe that it is not a mismanagement of this column to speak of liberal education. It is liberal education that allows for the difference of opinion (which in the best of cases can lead to knowledge) and on the other hand, it is the differences of those opinions which act as the cornerstones of liberal education. It is clear to me that the goods of freedom of speech and of thought are inseparable from the good of real education.

RACHEL PAGANO '11 IS FROM SANTA FE, N.M.

Nepali student returns home, illuminates rural village

— Roz Vara, Features Editor



Dristy Shrestha '11.5 and her father share a dream — to see every house in Nepal lit up with electricity. Shrestha grew up in Kathmandu, the capital and only large city in the small Asian nation.

"My dad is an orphan," Shrestha said. "He grew up in an orphanage in Kathmandu, but he had really good studies so he was able to get a scholarship to study in America — but he returned to Nepal because he wanted to give back to his society. One way he could see this happening would be to provide the country with electricity."

Today, her father is an engineer who works primarily with hydropower, the country's main source of electricity. Providing all of Nepal with power would be no easy task, as a decade-long civil war has essentially stopped the construction of necessary infrastructure and the dramatic topography makes it nearly impossible to run power lines to some regions. While electricity shortages have always been a problem, recent urban growth has exponentially increased the demand in Kathmandu to the point that the country has had to implement scheduled blackouts known as load shedding.

"[In America,] electricity is one of those things that you just have," Shrestha said. "It is on all the time. At home, it's a luxury. While in some parts of the country you do get more, in the village, just four bulbs could change people's lives."

Shrestha first thought about doing a project in Nepal when she heard about the Davis Projects for Peace Award. Her interest in hydropower made the proposal to implement a small hydro-project that would provide enough electricity for a small village of roughly 30-40 houses a natural fit.

"I wanted to apply and do something in my country," Shrestha said. "Not just because it's a developing country, but because, while I know about all these NGOs and INGOs that help, but it's not often that Nepalis do it themselves."

After writing the proposal for the project, Shrestha was

initially informed that it had been chosen to receive funding only to learn shortly thereafter that the program's budget had been cut and she would not, in fact, have the money to implement her project. Shrestha spent the remaining weeks at school looking for people to fund the project, going to CSO, ACE and anyone she thought might be able to help finance the project.

"I was really disappointed because we had the proposal and we came so close," Shrestha said. "I just started looking for people to fund it and at the last minute President [of the College Ronald D.] Liebowitz decided that he had \$10,000 he could give us for the project."

Last May, funds in hand, Shrestha returned to Nepal for

Here, electricity is one of those things that you just have. It is on all the time. [In Nepal] it is a luxury.

—Dristy Shrestha

the first time since enrolling at Middlebury. The project she returned to execute, Shrestha explained, was just like any other hydropower project. With the help of the villagers, a small dam and power house were built, and a portion of the river had to be re-directed to run through a machine in the power house to generate electricity.

"We did the construction with the help of the villagers," Shrestha said. "Every house that would benefit from the project had to send someone from their family to help. People didn't have money but they could participate through their labor."

The project relied heavily on technical help from Shrestha's father and a private company, PowerTech Nepal. However, many villagers had been involved before in small hydropower projects in neighboring villages and were also able to contribute their knowledge when difficulties arose.

"It is a small scale project," Shrestha said. "But these are very popular in Nepal and in the developing world. Many of the villages surrounding ours already had small hydro plants, so some villagers were familiar with how they worked."

In early July, water flowed through the powerhouse, generating electricity for the first time. "When we first went to the village, people didn't believe it was going to happen," Shrestha said. "They had had so many promises but nothing ever actually happened. So when we showed up for the first time they

looked stunned and said, like, 'this small little girl is going to do it?' They didn't believe me. It makes me feel really good that it actually worked and that there is at least some difference in their lives now."

When she wrote the initial proposal, Shrestha explained, she tried to think of all the ways that the village would benefit from the project — including a reduced carbon footprint and a decrease in fire danger as houses wouldn't be burning as much wood — but neither of these advantages helped the villagers as much as their transition away from kerosene.

"The presence of electricity meant that women didn't have to walk six hours each week to buy kerosene," Shrestha said. "They saved money and time, and it's much better for their health."

Shrestha considers herself extremely lucky to have been able to pursue her studies in the United States, but the fact that her project was carried out by Nepalis makes her very proud.

"Although the funding came from abroad," Shrestha said, "the work was done by Nepalis. In this project, the money was given to us and I connected the dots, but the dots were already in Nepal — there was already a company to help and villagers contributing anything they could and engineers who wanted to help. Everything was in Nepal except for the money part, and I literally just joined the dots together."

At the end of the summer, Shrestha found out that she had been awarded a scholarship from the Clinton Foundation to continue her project. She plans to return to Nepal this winter and implement the same project in a different village.

"I am first a Middlebury student," Shrestha said. "So I haven't been able to focus as much as I want. Getting the Clinton scholarship is giving me an opportunity replicate and do a better job the second time around."

The big question, though, is whether or not she will continue to pursue the project further. Currently, she is considering creating a Web site for donations but is unsure whether she will be able to raise enough money to pay for the machinery needed to generate electricity.

"Ultimately, I want to make the standard of life better in any way possible," Shrestha said. "Electricity and income generation are very important. They save money for kerosene and have health benefits, as well. I hope I can use my resources to help more villages."

To find out more about the project, visit Shrestha's illuminating blog, www.microhydropowerpeaceprojectnepal.blogspot.com.

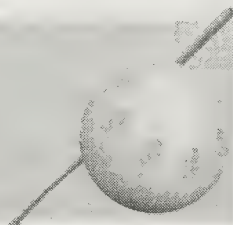


Courtesy

Shrestha and two friends from her high school worked with residents of a small village near Kathmandu, Nepal to construct a small hydropower plant. From left to right, the power house they built; a boy from the village points to a newly installed light bulb; Shrestha and members of her team pose with villagers in the power house with the electricity generator.

The Mean Bullies

A true underdog story of a pick-up wiffle ball team that beat the odds, page 12.



Home away from home

Families from the community welcome international students, page 13.



Seniors represent

Meet the Senior Committee co-chairs, page 13.

Center of the Circle



You've been eyeing this cutie from across the library for a few weeks now, and judging by his/her printing patterns, you think that you're ready to take the next step: reveal your crush to your friends and gather information about this unicorn.

"Oh, yeah ... I think we took a class together," your confidante reveals. "Nice, generally quiet and would occasionally whisper the wittiest remarks about the professor's lecture style that would make me laugh inappropriately loudly."

Good banter skills? Perfect. You begin planning your happy collegiate life together when, all of the sudden, your friend drops a bombshell:

"And he/she plays Quidditch." Dealbreaker. That's it. Crush called off. All attraction stunted.

Pull your friends. Everyone has a list of qualities that, if exhibited, prompt an immediate write-off or a romantic interest. In honor of Liz Lemon's (that's Tina Fey's character on "30 Rock" for those of you who find life lessons in non-network syndicated shows) new book "Dealbreakers," I have compiled a list of dealbreakers specific to Middlebury. If you fall under any of these categories, chances are that we will not be friends, nor will we be entering a "Middlebury marriage" anytime soon.

You eat exclusively in Ross Dining Hall. In order to have a "Proctor Date," you actually have to come to Proctor. Also, Ross is synonymous with recluses, football players and those who wear pajamas in public, all additional dealbreakers.

You stand ambiguously. On the sidewalk, near the Panini machine, in front of the printer — do all of us a favor and either be decisive or step to the side. As Michael Chock '10.5 puts it, "If you can't navigate the dining hall, you can't navigate my nether-regions."

You do nothing outside of school, and yet constantly complain about the amount of work you have. As an extracurricular enthusiast, I believe that if you cannot make time to pursue your personal passion, you certainly cannot make time for me.

You frequent The Bunker. Enough said.

You wear your Ray-Bans inside. With the exception of an Orange Crush performance, at which this accessory is encouraged, sporting sunglasses inside makes you appear pretentious and unapproachable.

You Facebook stalk on public library computers. I'm glad that you carefully analyze and selectively de-tag embarrassing photos, I really am. Just don't do it while I'm waiting to print out the latest draft of my thesis. Also, knowing that you frequent Facebook eliminates some of your mystery.

You only wear blue-and-white striped button-down shirts. I have a hunch that this attire is mandated by the economics department, but I doubt that they are checking up on you on Saturday nights. So, please, show a little creativity and try another color combination.

You call girls "dude." I once confronted a guy friend about this behavior, and he responded with, "Would you rather I called you 'woman'?" Fair enough, but still, I would prefer not to receive the same endearment as your soccer buddies.

Just in time to compile my senior crush list, I think I have finally devised a way to determine who will make the cut. Whether this is your first year or your fourth, I encourage you to decide what your dealbreakers are and to be selective. And if someone with a broomstick between his or her legs really sets your snitch aflutter, I'll try not to judge you.

H. Kay Merriman '10 is a Features editor from Canton, Ohio.

Bullies steal wiffle ball World Series

By Ted Silberman
FEATURES EDITOR

"Our wiffle team's victory is one of the most epic underdog stories ever told." This quotation from Sean Maye '11 pretty much sums up the tale of the Mean Bullies, a motley crew of a wiffle ball team that no one gave a chance to win it all. But in the end, the Bullies won the Intramural World (read: Middlebury) Series and this hodgepodge of randoms lived a dream so trite it must be true.

"After losing to 'It's Like It Touches Your Soul' (the team we beat in the championship series) 15-0 in only three innings to start off the season, and then 13-1 in game one of the best of three championship, nobody thought we could win," said Joey Colianni '09.5. "Some of us couldn't hit, others couldn't field and some couldn't do either one, but we put it all together in games two and three to pull off the victory."

The newly formed team came into the season as an unknown quantity, but after the initial trouncing, its inexperience was quite evident. Aware of this absence of ability, co-captain Mai Ann Healy '09.5 highlighted the intangible assets the team brought to the field every game.

"What we lacked in athletic cognition we made up for in spirit, laughter and, of course, pantsing," she said.

As the season went on, the Bullies tried many unorthodox techniques to improve their skills. According to co-captain Alex Schloss '09.5, the squad "even had a practice one day." Healy once again focused on the less concrete aspects of the game and provided the necessary nourishment to cul-

tivate team chemistry.

"I would attribute our team's success to a practice catered by Mai Ann Healy — shrimp cocktail and growlers breed great wiffleballers," said Grace Rumford '09.5.

The Mean Bullies also benefited from the admissions office's diminished standards for athletes. Although dominating on the field, some of the players were less impressive in postgame interviews.

When asked about the plays that stand

I would attribute our team's success to shrimp cocktail and growlers.

—Mai Ann Healy

out in his mind, Moriel Rothman '11 said:

"I think the most memorable moment for me was what we have nicknamed 'the tornado.' This was during a period in which our team was practicing between two and five times a day, and we were ready for anything. We had drive, spirit, dedication, provocation, commiseration, sensuality — all that it takes to make a supreme team. So anyway, the tornado. We were facing our rivals, the Nice Peasants, and we were down like 15 touchdowns to seven baskets. Luckily, Michael Jordan was on our side. So, therefore, *ergo* ... we won. So there you have it. Wiffle ball in a nutshell."

While none of Rothman's commentary is even remotely close to reality and offers very little insight into the Mean Bullies' story, it does demonstrate the clean, concise prose that is indicative of a good college essay.

The story of how these players got to Middlebury is a remarkable story on its own, but how they found each other is just as unexpected. Many of the teammates had never met before they joined each other on the road to intramural immortality. The Mean Bullies came from friend groups from across the campus, brought together by a common love of the game.

"It started with an e-mail, a joke of an idea between Schloss and me, to bring our best friends from separate worlds together in the great game that is wiffle," said Healy. "But it was there on the blissful field of Battell Beach that our team, as the uncontrollable ball of dystrophy that I came to depend on throughout the semester, came back to beat a team that had killed us earlier in the season. Beauty, that's what I call our team. Beauty."

These beautiful bumblerers had their fair share of highlight reel moments. Dave DeMarkis '10 led the team's fielding with a spectacular behind the back catch and Ann Montgomery '09.5 was an offensive juggernaut with the team's highest on-base percentage. "She almost always walked," said Schloss.

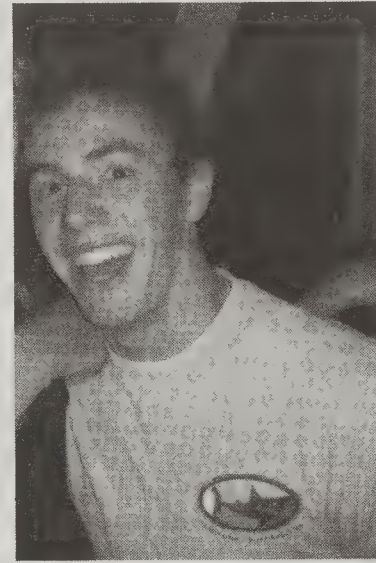
Starting as just a rag-tag bunch of misfits with nothing in common, the Mean Bullies achieved greatness through hard work, determination and a few of the screwball plays that are so typical of this kind of story. Summing up the joy of the experience and in the process belittling perhaps the greatest hockey story ever, Colianni said, "I now know how the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team felt when they defeated the Soviets en route to their gold medal."

campusclones

Ever done a double-take at the salad bar? Awkwardly shouted across Battell Beach at someone you thought was your best friend? Grabbed the incorrect person on the dance floor? *The Campus* reveals the lookalikes, twins, clones and doppelgängers that you have been spotting.



Will James '10.5



Carson Cornbrooks '11

winners



&



losers

Mrs. Tiger Woods

Look who's swinging the clubs now.

Tiger's Escalade

You weren't the one sending naughty text messages, but you still got the shaft.

Extended winter break

The first year in memory we'll be home nearly as long as our high school friends.

Condensed finals period

As if Middlebury students weren't stressed enough already.

New Moon

Another vampire movie steals audiences' souls (and \$8).

Taylor Lautner

You may make a hot vampire, but your girlfriend's name is also Taylor.

Local families host international students

By Michelle Smoler
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury's international students have opened doors to the wider world by teaching domestic students about their cultures in ways that cannot be learned from a book. As international student Chris Lam '10 recounted, "Director of International Student Services Kathy Foley Giorgio once said, 'we don't have to go to the rest of the world because the students have brought the world to us.'" But how does Middlebury offer the same cultural opportunity to international students? The Friends of International Students Host Family Program matches new internationals up with local families. The students remain connected with these families throughout their Middlebury experience. Here are a few accounts of those experiences.

The Single Male

When he completed his host family application, indicating a preference for an average family with kids and pets, Hong-Kong native Lam could never have expected that he would open his host family package to discover he had been matched with a single male. Though surprise and skepticism had him nervous, he kept an open mind until the day when he was able to meet his new host father for a dinner at Atwater. As it turns out, this single male had just graduated from Middlebury the year be-

fore, worked in the admissions office and had been an international student as well.

Lam could not have asked for anyone more prepared to aid him on his four-year quest through Middlebury. Over the years they became very close. His "host brother" taught him how to drive, allowing him to get his license and become a Middlebury van driver. They skied together, ate together on occasion and his host brother came to support him when singing for his a cappella group Stuck in the Middle. What is more, he provided the basis for a home in Middlebury that Lam could never have expected when he arrived at college.

"I really got the feeling that he was someone I could rely on, seek advice from and that he would always support me," said Lam. Despite his host brother leaving Middlebury two years ago to work in Boston, he and Lam continue to have a close relationship that will follow them through the rest of their lives.

The Old Couple

Liu "Jen" Yun-An '12 hails from Taiwan and has been matched with a host-family in Cornwall. From the beginning, Jim and Helen showed her the true nature of the Vermont lifestyle with activities like cross country skiing behind the golf course and trips to a sugar farm, where her host father explained to her the sugaring process. She cooks with them

and for them and brings her other foreign friends along on visits to their home.

In return, Liu invites her host family to Middlebury to show them the Helpdesk, where she works, and to eat with her at campus barbecues.

"No one at home ever heard of Vermont and once I was here it was easy to be in the bubble and see only one side of American culture," she said. Having a host family enabled Liu to see the many sides of America, including holiday meals. She experienced her first Thanksgiving with her host family in a very traditional manner, with turkey, gravy and stuffing.

"The program," Liu explained, "was started with the goal to make it easier for international students to transition. But for a lot of people, they have already been abroad, so it is not necessarily helpful for transitioning but for branching out."

The Ultimate Host Family Experience

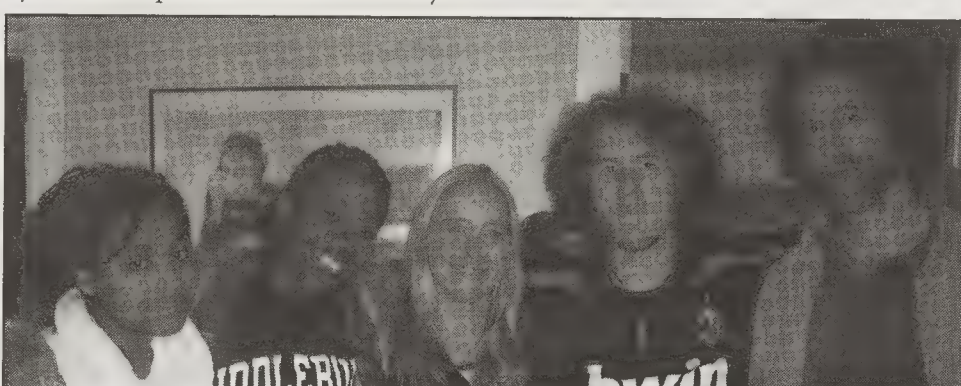
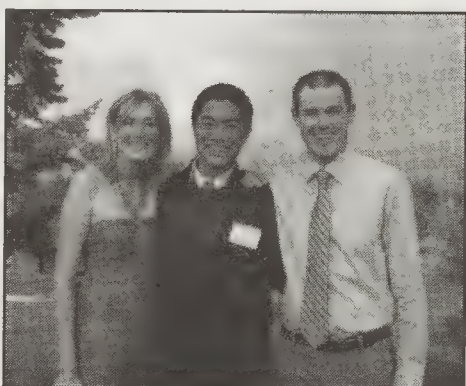
Though most international students must remain away from their families for a long period of time, many are able to return home for the summers to reconnect. This is not the case for Rachel Ochako '11, who has been unable to return to Kenya after two-and-a-half years at Middlebury. "People in the United States don't realize how nice it is to have a host family," Ochako explained. "If I have a bad day or

just want to talk, I can call and they will be there to listen."

Having never encountered a cold environment, or America's system of "higher education" Ochako's biological family has difficulty understanding her college experience and offering the academic support she needs. "Because my host parents are two professors on campus, they want to make sure I am good academically," Ochako.

In addition to academic support, Ochako's host family has taught her many things about living in Vermont, such as the usefulness of wearing layers, which she did not know about, having lived in a warm environment her whole life. And more than that, while being so far away from home, they have provided her with the emotional support that is necessary for every student making the journey through college. "I spent the summer with them," Ochako said, "and when I got sick, they took me to the hospital and cared for me. I love my host parents."

Though many international students do not utilize the Friends of International Students Host Family program, those involved are afforded incredible new experiences and make lasting connections. "For students who haven't stepped out of their country and are struggling with culture, having a host family is really important," said Lam. "Without their help, I would feel more foreign."



Courtesy

International students enjoy their time away from home with their host families. Liu (right), Lam (center) and Ochako (right) pose with their new friends in Vermont.

Seniors plan celebrations, graduation week

By H.Kay Merriman
FEATURES EDITOR

"The importance of the Senior Committee is that it serves as a forum for seniors to decide on the senior class gift and plan events for the senior class," said Senior Committee co-chair Julisa Salas '10. The committee kicked off its programming with the seniors-only 200 days party in McCullough Student Center on Nov. 24.

"The 200 days party was a great start to the list of events that we will plan throughout the year," added co-chair Samantha Maytag '10.

"The inspiration behind the 'Party in the USA' theme was to serve as a reminder that although senior year comes with its share of challenges, it is also our last year to celebrate our achievements with our friends," Salas added.

At the 200 days party, the co-chairs, including Salas, Maytag, Chris Lam '10 and Will Siltan '10, announced the seniors' chosen class gift. Seniors' donations will create the "Class

of 2010 Scholarship." The scholarship will fund the financial aid of a future Middlebury student and is intended to favor international students.

"I am very pleased about the choice our class has made," said Lam. "Not because I'm an international student, but more because it shows how much we value the opportunity to study in Middlebury and the need to maintain the diversity and talent in our college even under such an economy. It would be really sad to think that someone who is absolutely eligible to get such a great education has to be denied because of his financial status."

Samantha Maytag is an environmental economics major with a minor in Spanish from Hillside, Colo. She enjoys skiing and showing horses. Maytag is on the Relay for Life Committee and participates in the Student Investment Committee and the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing, as well as a number of volunteer organizations on campus.

Maytag shared her not-so-secret motivation for chairing the committee. "I hope to use the Senior Committee budget to maximize on fun senior parties and events throughout the year," she said. "I'm also looking forward to planning an exciting senior week for the Class of 2010!"

Julisa Salas is an English and American Literatures major and a French minor from New York City. She has been a part of the Community Council and the Student Government Association.

Salas brings experience in fundraising to the committee.

"As a student manager for the [alumni gift-giving] Phone-a-thon and a former intern for the Office of Annual Giving, I bring in an understanding of the incredible amount of work and effort that it takes to work toward our fundraising and participation goals," she said. "We started fundraising at the 200 days party and will continue to fundraise until the end of the school year. I hope that every member of our class will donate to this worthwhile cause."

Will Siltan is an international studies/European studies major with disciplines in economics and Spanish from Sudbury, Mass. Siltan is a member of Fletcher House, is the SGA Chair of Alumni Affairs and leader of the 2010 Winter Term installment of "the Hunt," a competition among teams of students seeking to complete a list of obscure tasks. He also participates in soccer and basketball intramurals.

Siltan recognizes the heavy responsibility of representing the entire class. "I think it is important that the Senior Committee include a diverse set of individuals in order to provide the most thorough representation of the senior class," he explained. "In this way, we hope to reach out to everyone and field all potential ideas on parties, fundraising and our general

Class of 2010 legacy."

Chris Lam is a biology major with a Japanese minor. He hails from Toronto, Canada and Hong Kong. On campus, Lam sings with the a cappella group Stuck in the Middle, participates in Relay for Life and is involved with the International Student Organization and the Middlebury College Musical Players.

Lam said that he brings something different to the senior committee. "I think, being an international student, I can bring in a viewpoint that is different from the majority of the student body," he said. "I am able to raise opinions or comments that are specific to certain groups of students on campus. Since I have worked very closely with the International Student Scholar Services office in the past, I also have a very good knowledge regarding the administrative side and diversity issues."

All of the co-chairs acknowledged that they are not the only ones responsible for planning the senior events and encourage other seniors to get involved.

The senior committee meets as a whole nearly every other week. During the off-weeks, the sub-committees meet to work on their respective projects.

"This way [with the sub-committees], it is more efficient in getting things done, as we are all seniors and are very busy with our other work," Lam acknowledged. "But the goal of the committee is essentially to create a place where we can discuss and pool ideas and subsequently craft a senior year experience that is unique and special to us."

"We need more seniors to get involved, which will give us a better chance of throwing an epic party and making graduation week that much more spectacular," Siltan added. "Remember that Thursday night committee meetings are open to all seniors — don't worry, they don't cut into bar time."



Saila Huusko

Seniors dance and mingle in celebration of their remaining 200 days at the College.

by Tamara Hilmes, Arts Editor

Ladies and gentlemen, please remain seated with your seatbelts tightly fastened until the aircraft has landed — oh wait, it just did. The “bearcraft,” that is. Having barely recovered from his premier album, “Portrait of the Artist as a Dead Man,” which he released to the blogosphere last February, joint Dance and Music major Philippe Bronchtein ’10 dropped his sophomore effort, “Bearcraft Carrier” on Nov. 11. Bronchtein, who operates under the name Bearplane when mixing and producing heavily-synthesized dance anthems, pulled together eleven new tracks for his latest album of electronic music.

Similar to his first album, a number of the new tracks sample a diverse range of pre-existing audio. From disco to funk and even recorded literature, there is really no telling what one might hear meshed between layers of synth and bass. The phrase “we are the children of god,” which finds its way into the first track on the album, “The Children Are the Future,” is actually a vocal sample taken from an old sermon which Bronchtein stumbled upon (not literally) online.

“The Internet is the craziest,” said Bronchtein. “You can find hours and hours of samples, like full sermons.”

When the creator and sole member of Bearplane sits down to create a new song, he typically starts with a sound byte of some sort, whether it be a voice-over or the orchestral interludes found in classic disco.

“I love a lot of electro,” he explained, “and I love disco because there

THE INTERNET IS THE CRAZIEST.

— Philippe Bronchtein

“Just like you wouldn’t use five guitars,” he explained, “I wouldn’t use eight synths, just for the mere fact that it would sound weird.”

Once Bronchtein has hit on a goldmine of a sample and paired it with an equally-dynamic melody and proceeded to add in the magical toppings and condiments we call layers, he moves on to mixing.

“It’s really hard to make it tasteful and not overwhelming,” he said. “I mix it on different sound systems, and create a bunch of different versions, and then try to find the happy medium.”

“A lot of it is just trial and error,” he added.

Bronchtein uses an array of digital mixing software all stored on his personal computer, along with other equipment that he has accumulated over the years by “fiending” on Craigslist and other sources — a collection he lovingly refers to as “mad toys.”

Bronchtein’s mastery of the technology is something that Hamlin particularly admires, especially when it comes to the computer software.

“I learn a lot from watching him work,” Hamlin said of Bronchtein. “He starts with some idea or sample, then can put it through quite an extensive range of processes to change it substantially before he gets what he wants. Watching him create material is very interesting — he works in a fluid way, is constantly interacting with the sounds he’s working with. He seems very tactile when he’s working — you get the feeling of someone working with a piece of clay, constantly molding and refining it until it’s just right.”

This artist’s careful attention when combined with technical know-how seems to have paid off — “Bearcraft Carrier” comes across as not just a solid, feel-good dance album, but a compositionally-sound delight. “Neck Tattoos,” the third song on the album, plays on the ear like an ethereal pinball machine and incorporates immensely satisfying builds, especially at the 1:38 mark and the 1:57 bridge. A new melody, added just after the two-minute mark, is perfectly dissonant and brings the song home.

“I love the use of vocals in ‘Throat Babies’ and the use of the spoken word in ‘Step Left, Step Right, Around!’ really appeals to me,” said Hamlin. “But as I listen to the album,” he went on to say, “I like each piece at the moment, and also feel they all complement each other very well. As I was listening, I’d say, ‘This is my favorite,’ then the next song would play and I’d say, ‘No, this is my favorite.’”

Several others outside the Middlebury music department are also talking enthusiastically about Bearplane’s newest release. Creator and editor of the well-established Kickin’ the Peanuts music blog, Patrick D’Arcy ’12, who blogged on Bearplane’s initial release, compared the two bodies of work.

“Personally, I think Bearplane is at his best when he pushes the pop sensibility of his sound, like on ‘09’ from ‘Bearcraft Carrier,’ or ‘Ultimate Gluttony’ and ‘So Relaxed’ from his first album,” D’Arcy wrote in an e-mail. “He’s got a really great ear for those types of sounds, and I almost wish the new album had a bit more of that.”

Likewise a fan of Bearplane’s first production, WRMC Music Manager David Foote ’10, however, tended to agree with Hamlin as to the structural soundness of the new songs and musical growth of the creator.

“It’s as fun as the first one, but he’s put more thought into the composition,” said Foote. “It’s up there with a lot of the music of this kind being put out by promoters right now.”

Bronchtein, who is already raring to get his next album underway, hopes to perform on campus sometime during January, but in the mean time, eager listeners can hear his latest jams being broadcast on WRMC 91.1 FM or can download the album via the Bearplane Facebook group. One word of advice, though, to those seeking out Bronchtein’s electronic oeuvre: do not visit Bearplane.org. As Bronchtein pointed out, someone else has also co-opted the “bear-air” pun.

BEARPLANE

takes off

student releases second album

are really, really melodic parts to everything.” The orchestral swoops and big builds in energy and dropping back down are all qualities of the disco style that Bronchtein admires and tries to incorporate into his own work.

“Philippe is getting really good at grabbing a wide range of sources in his music and making them fully his own, absorbing them completely into the music,” said Professor of Music and electronic musician Peter Hamlin ’73 after listening to the latest album. Hamlin and Bronchtein have paired up in the past to put on electronic music shows at 51 Main, but Bearplane, Hamlin reemphasized, is the sole work of the student.

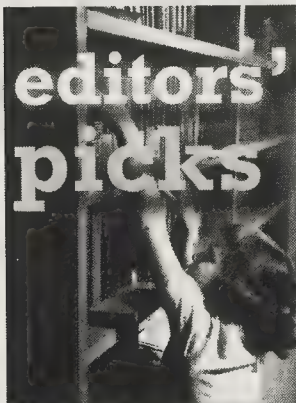
And a great deal of work is required to produce tracks as dense as those found on “Bearcraft” — every single track on the album consists of at least 15 or 16 layers before mix-down, according to Bronchtein. With new technology making it ever easier to add layer upon layer, it becomes a trick in itself in knowing when to stop. Bronchtein likens the process to writing a good paper.

“When writing a paper,” he explained, “I write down everything. I’m thinking about, and then narrow it down.”

The secret, he claims, is knowing how and when to exercise self-control.



Illustration by Joanna Rothkopf, Arts Editor



editors'
picks

04 “H” Wright Theatre Stage 8:00 p.m., also playing Dec. 4 and 5

Jimmy Wong ’09.5 presents his senior acting work. Wong’s extensive resume includes such works as “And Now for Something Completely Different” and “The Europeans,” as well as appearances with the Potomac Theatre Project in New York City.

04 “Mikey” Hepburn Zoo 8:00 p.m., also playing Dec. 4 and 5

This senior acting work of Mike Tierney ’09.5 delves into the 1950s with a play originally written for television. Adapted for the stage, Oscar Loyo directs this 60-minute production of “Mikey,” starring Jaime Fuller ’11, Haille Woods ’12 and Reilly Steel ’11.

03 Dance Company of Middlebury MCFA Dance Theatre 4:30 p.m.

Lecturer in Dance Penny Campbell directs this show, titled “Proyecto Republica Dominicana.” Dancers will explore links between music and dance in both American and Latin American cultures. Visiting Lecturer in Dance Christal Brown will also contribute.

05 Riddim Fall Show McCullough Hall 7:00 p.m.

Middlebury’s world dance troupe presents its annual fall show, “Recession.” Combining a range of styles including hip-hop, funk, salsa, lyrical and contemporary, the performance is sure to give audiences a multicultural experience with rhythm.

'Desdemona' puts women of 'Othello' center stage

By Claire Sibley
STAFF WRITER

From Nov. 19 through Nov. 21, "Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief" played five shows at the Hepburn Zoo. The script, written 30 years ago by Pulitzer-winning playwright Paula Vogel, is inspired by Shakespeare's "Othello." But, as the title alludes, Vogel's work shifts away from the tragic hero of Venice and focuses on the women of the story: Desdemona, Emilia and Bianca.

For those familiar with "Othello," his pregnant absence may at first be distracting. And, played with any less strength, "Desdemona" could have easily become a play about the absence of a man: the threat of his discovery of Desdemona's infidelities looms just beyond reach; his whims and desires dictate the actions and reactions of his wife and servant, even extant only in repetition; his hand is felt as a ripple of sound through the audience as it strikes Desdemona's flesh offstage.

But from the moment Emily Kron '10 steps on stage, the women possess the story. It becomes their story and Othello fades from the viewer's attention, becoming the eerie background-presence so necessary for the play's success. The audience watches as Emilia is created before their eyes: her bearing and speech is that of a worker and her manner is as coarse as her hands, but the tenderness in her expression is impossible to ignore, as are the dreams that define her as not only worker but woman. Kron commands the role of Emilia with a natural facility that reflects her remarkable talent. She owns the character in all aspects, beginning with the rigid clockwork of her movements and balancing the nearly embittered and cautiously hopeful tones of her voice. There is even something in the angle of Kron's face that

seems to cut the character into real space.

The contrast between Desdemona and Emilia is immediately apparent. The polarized rapport that develops in their difference is expected, a given from the first moment they share the stage. While Emilia is hardened, wearied more by experience than age, Desdemona is her opposite: newly wedded, well educated, and bored by routine, Othello's unabashedly unfaithful wife brings to life a dichotomy so stark it could be comical. Claire Graves's '10 delivery is capable and well-exacted: Desdemona is sharp, her capriciousness biting and acidic. At the same moment, her crippling loneliness is evident, and her clear naiveté saves her from antagonism. In the end, while no heroine, Graves becomes a Desdemona who is appealing in her own humanity, one who makes mistakes and is paid with tenfold the malice of her own intent.

Their interaction is defined by opposites: privilege and servitude, leisure and work. But it is not here that Graves and Kron excel. Though less obvious, the closeness of the two women is what binds the message of the work to its players and eventually evokes the audience's rush of compassion for the quiet tragedy of their fates. Without compromising the integrity of their characters, the actresses succeed in realizing Emilia and Desdemona's commonalities: a desperate desire for financial independence and security, a sense of belonging and the sudden haunt of disillusionment.

Bianca, played by Jessica Halper '11.5, is a prostitute subject to the deliberate scorn of Emilia and the temporary favor of Desdemona. Her character becomes an catalyst for revolution for their relationship: Bianca is a kind of foil for each of the others, in ways that they cannot foil each other. Through her, we see the



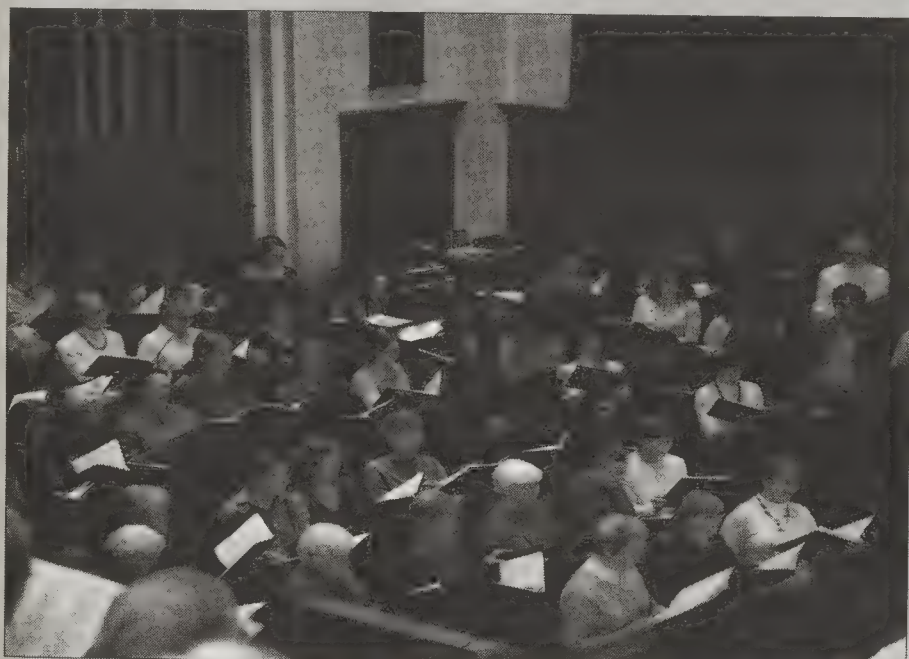
Name
Jessica Halper '11.5, Claire Graves '10, and Emily Kron '10 all starred in "Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief," a feminized reimagining of "Othello."

caustic cruelty of Emilia. Kron's performance truly shines in countering Bianca, and it is through this interaction that she is set up to be punished by Desdemona. Desdemona, for her part, is revealed to be more insecure than she had let on; in Bianca, she sees freedom and liberation from the "lie that [marriage] is." But in Bianca's sadly comical attempts at mimicking the gentlewoman, we see how desperate Desdemona is. We see it again in the irony of her prostitution. In her desire to "see the world," she ends up sleeping with her housekeeper's husband. Desdemona looks for satisfaction in all of the wrong places and ends up finding it nowhere.

Schuyler Beeman's '10 skill in directing is evident throughout. The purposefully stylized scene changes may at first seem arbitrary, but as the plot develops, and with the char-

acters of the women, these transitions clearly serve to echo and reiterate the interactions of the women. Each pause forces viewers to reflect on the emotions of the scene, ultimately underscoring the nuanced performances of Graves, Kron and Halper. His hand is less obvious between these transitions and the physical acting of the women is both seamless and fluid. Despite the intermittently exaggerated aspects of each character, their movements and expression never cross the line, but rather ground them in a reality that extends their definition as women.

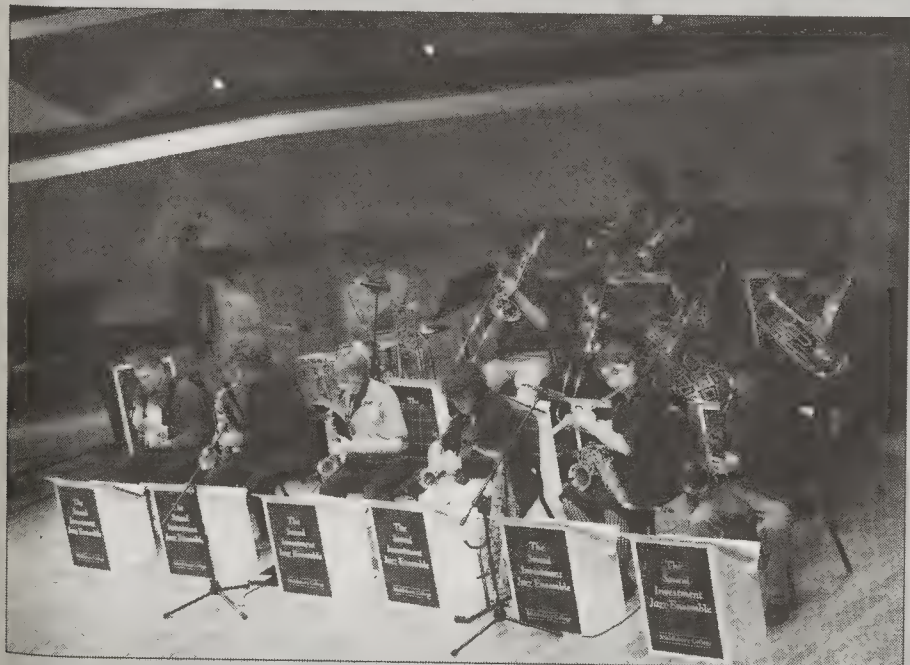
Beeman's interpretation of Vogel's script is ultimately impressive. Kron and Graves deliver resonant and skillful performances, allowing "Desdemona" to succeed not only in evoking emotion, but in doing so naturally. The result is amusing, strange and beautiful.



Photographer

COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHORUS SINGS CLASSICAL REPERTOIRE

Students joined with staff and community members on Sunday, Nov. 22 to enjoy the Thanksgiving season. Directed by Jeff Rehbach, the chorus sang from a variety of composers including pieces from Christian A. Johnson Professor of Music Peter Hamlin '73.

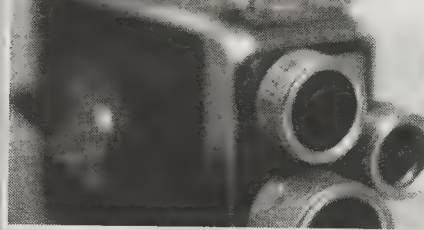


Saila Huusko, Photo Editor

SOUND INVESTMENT JAZZ EASY ON THE POCKETS & EARS

On Friday, Nov. 20, the Sound Investment jazz Ensemble gave a rousing pre-turkey show.

THE REEL CRITIC



by Dana Walters

Despite the fact that Wes Anderson's new film stars an assortment of furry creatures who scamper, scurry and crawl in the dirt, the characters of "Fantastic Mr. Fox" bear more similarities to the oddball humans of Anderson's other films than to the actual animals they are supposed to be. Bill Murray and Jason Schwartzman make their usual appearances and play their usual idiosyncratic characters. The customary pretension and insecurities can familiarly be seen resonating in the characters' boasts and belligerence, even if it is out of animals that should not actually be able to articulate English words. These memorable Anderson quirks have been equally alienating and endearing to audiences in the past, and the films that have resulted generally achieve a zealous cult following rather than widespread, blockbuster success. Without question, though, "Fantastic Mr. Fox," in melding the Wes Anderson method with the Roald Dahl children's story, combines the best of both eccentrics to present a film that fully realizes its comic potential.

With an all-star cast headlined by George Clooney and Meryl Streep, "Fantastic Mr. Fox" recounts the attempted and failed reformation of the title character. Mr. Fox (Clooney), embodying his animal persona, begins the film with the much-maligned vocation of thief. Like all husbands with a familial commitment, however, he must soon give up the fun and perils of the high life for the boredom and security of the desk job. But as his son grows up and the tedium of his career overwhelms him, Mr. Fox begins to question the life he's been living.

Determined to prove his worth, he undertakes the dangerous task of stealing from the three most notoriously cruel farmers

around. When the farmers discover the robber in their midst, however, Mr. Fox's surreptitious activities endanger the rest of the animal world. As the animals fight for their survival, a didactic tale emerges that ultimately moralizes on the value of being different.

Early in the film, as Mr. Fox asks his lawyer's opinion, he says, "I understand what you're saying, and your comments are valuable, but I'm gonna ignore your advice." This statement, although referring to an entirely different question, embodies Anderson's determination to stick to a style that has failed to resonate with viewers in the past because of its refusal to portray realistic characters. Instead, he has resolutely stuck to stories in which humanity is embodied by peculiarity. While "Fantastic Mr. Fox" bears the classic trademark eccentricities of an Anderson film, it is apt to appeal to a wider audience than his past offerings.

It is not the use of the creative genius of Dahl that will draw in new viewers, or the fluffy cuteness of some of the creatures inhabiting the film. Instead, Anderson's use of animation as opposed to live-action is the integral element that makes the movie work. Audiences that would generally shy away from such unrealistically bizarre characters will be able to digest the strangeness in the form of a puppet fox, an opossum or even a psychotic rat. Ironically, these traits being displayed by animals marks an even more improbable story line than usual, but with audiences approaching the film already knowing the tale will contain a collection of animated animals, they will not be disappointed when the characters bear no signs of genuine humans.

Able to finally recognize the likeability of Wes Anderson films, audiences will likely be inclined to reassess his previous work, for, despite the strangeness threaded through his films, they do in fact find truth and sincere humanity in their emotional endings — compassion, honesty and dignity. "Fantastic Mr. Fox" is no exception. It stands out, however, in infusing its usual idiosyncrasies into characters that live beneath the ground. Ironically, that is where these most definitely inhuman characters find those most human of qualities.



by Alex Blair

Artist | Animal Collective Album | "Fall Be Kind"

Animal Collective has had quite a year. Way back in January the Brooklyn/Baltimore-based group released the monumental "Merriweather Post Pavilion," an album that set the critical world ablaze (many critics wasted no time in deeming it the album of the year) and kicked off the electro-pop trend that so many bands have since unsuccessfully tried to emulate. They embarked on a headlining tour across the United States and Europe and even received some considerable attention from the mainstream media with an appearance on "The Late Show with David Letterman."

Now, as 2009 draws to a close, AC delivers its second '09 release, the remarkable five-song EP "Fall Be Kind." Most of its tracks were written during or shortly after the "Merriweather" sessions, but with its blend of the experimental and immediately accessible, the EP stands on its own.

"Graze," a song about the creative process, opens up "Fall Be Kind" with shimmering, fairytale strings that slowly give way to Avery Tare's soaring vocals and a gently played piano. The song's slow, ambient soundscape makes for a satisfying listen, but what occurs during the second half of the track takes it to new heights. Unexpectedly, a playful, swirling flute backed by crashing cymbals and a bouncy vocal melody transforms the song into a medieval romp. This music seems like it was made for elves and hobbits, not a college-aged hipster, but it's fresh and inventive and like nothing you've heard all year.

"What Would I Want? Sky," the first song ever to feature a legal Grateful Dead sample, continues with more rewarding surprises. The song's first half is made up of fractured and experimental textures that at first may seem boisterous and random, but upon further listen reveal intricate sonic touches and details that make for an endlessly interesting experience. The last three minutes of "What Would I Want? Sky" find Animal Collective at their most accessible. Tare's infectious vocal melody and Panda Bear's ethereal harmonies give the song an immediate but chilling effect.

"Bleed," the album's weakest track, serves as a transitional piece, separating the more melodic openers from the haunting and difficult closers. "On a Highway" considers a usual place of escape, the open road, as a prison where every sound and movement trigger thoughts of despair and darkness: "On a highway/I let the bad things taunt me/Or do they want to haunt me?/I do not know how they find me." Throw in some eerie strings and occasional tones of dissonance, and Animal Collective has created a truly tense and evocative piece.

"I Think I Can," with its dreamy, layered instrumentation and length of over seven minutes, stands as "Fall Be Kind's" most epic track. For most of the song, the lyrics invoke a sense of uncertainty and doubt as to whether it's possible to move on from a situation in the face of "too many tough times." But as the track closes, Panda Bear, in his familiar Brian Wilson-esque croon, repeats the song's title with such assurance that we believe that things will actually work out. The dark tone that marked the second side of "Fall Be Kind" is erased, and we, as listeners, are left wondering where these remarkable musicians will take us next.

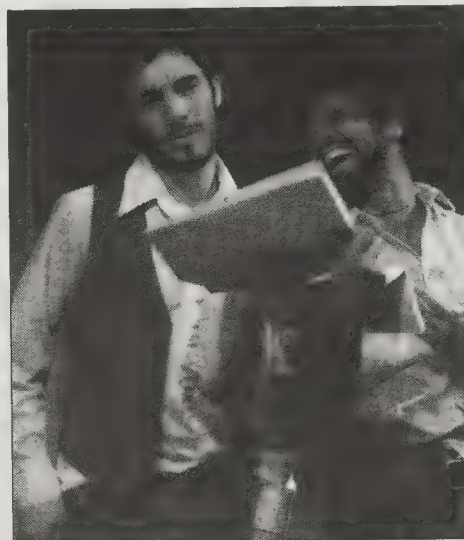
'Novecento' gets a bit lost in translation

By Tamara Hilmes
ARTS EDITOR

The lights were dimmed excepting a blue-filtered trickle that danced off the curved white wall of the Wright Theatre stage and the round "windows" that hung like the eye-like portals of a ship. They curved into a half moon outline that enclosed a stage empty but for the series of white columns stood toward the right, two of which framed an old piano. "Novecento," a five-man adaptation of Alessandro Baricco's monologue, is largely the story of an orphan who lives his entire life aboard the *Virginian*, an ocean liner, during the first part of the 20th century. Aside from his well-developed sea legs, there are two other notable things about the main character: his name — Danny Boodman T.D. Lemon Novecento — and his incredible affinity for the jazz piano. The play starred Sasha Hirsch '09.5, a jazz pianist in his own right, and was adapted and directed by Nerina Cocchi '10, who was inspired by her Italian grandmother's stories of another era.

After reading the playwright's note in the program, I was greatly anticipating being "transported into another universe, where I could forget what I was uselessly yearning for and just live the simple presence of that one single moment," as Cocchi described her experience with the legend of "Novecento." I was also fascinated by the prospect of viewing a play that was both translated and adapted from an Italian monologue — an extremely bold and laudable undertaking for an undergraduate theater major. My excitement rose when Peter Coccoma '12 walked on stage dressed like Christopher Reeve straight out of "Somewhere in Time." I was looking forward, very much, to traveling back to a bygone era with the charming, trumpet-playing Tim Tooney and his adopted Southern drawl.

Hirsch's first appearance was not quite so elegant — he resembled a cross between a preppie sailor and a baboon, galloping across the sparse stage like a hairless Tarzan. Bizarre

Saila Huusko
Coccoma '12 and Edzie '10 in "Novecento."

as it was, the action served to heighten the level of drama that had been lost in the expository section following Coccoma's introduction. Too often during the play, one character would take on the role of storyteller in what I can only assume was a well-meant attempt to capture the magic of Cocchi's grandmother's tales. Unfortunately, the long bouts of description came across more like a librarian speaking to children during circle time than the poetic moment that I think the playwright/director was shooting for, and for which I was hoping.

Despite the slightly awkward re-imagining of Novecento's beginnings, the audience could not help but be fully entranced from the moment Hirsch touched the first key to the end of Novecento's introduction to the piano. The careful transition from the first few suspicious notes to the ethereal threads of melody that followed managed to recapture the magic and charm that the beginning of the play had promised. It was only my anticipation of another round of his incredible piano-playing that enabled me to forgive the strange interpretive dance that accompanied him the second time he played. As Novecento and Tooney sat at the piano, the remaining actors swept onto the stage holding what looked like a flat chunk of granite attached to string. Back and forth they swung the rock, in time with the music. Closer and closer they sank as the music softened, until they met the ground, and then, thankfully, they fled the stage. A word of advice: if you are going to write interpretive dancing into your play, make sure it is not side-by-side with amazing musical talent. It tends to come across as somewhat tacky.

And while we're on the subject of tackiness, I think it necessary to address the cheap sexual humor that finds itself woven between scenes, usually during Tooney's (Coccoma's) reflections. I think we all know that Emily Pinto '12's "never got off" line was not referring to anything boat-related, nor was it or any of the other awkward, supposedly-sexually-charged moments, really related to anything else in the play. The only possible purpose that these moments might have served was to endear Tooney that much more to the audience — his complete and utter rejection of the rather horny Kathy Robertson (Pinto) in deference to his friend's troubles was rather touching (ridiculous innuendo intended?). But really all of this just adds up to my larger claim that the female characters, in general, were rather superfluous to both the action and the story in "Novecento." I like Cocchi's method of using a lot of different voices to tell the story of Novecento and to demonstrate how he was able to touch (sorry, sorry) so many lives despite never once having stepped foot off the *Virginian*. I think that this effect, had it been more carefully executed, would have been extremely successful. Unfortunately, as it was, the two female characters only served to

chop up the action in unsatisfying ways. For instance, when Novecento is "dueling" with Jelly Roll Morton and takes out a cigarette and places it in Morton's mouth, the audience is already captivated by the bold young man. Sandra Robetta's (Martina Bonolis '10) over-emphasized scoot across the floor and toward him was, at that moment, just as unnecessary as the aforementioned failed attempts to seduce. This play is about the poignant bond of friendship between Tooney and Novecento, two men, and I wish that Cocchi and Co. would have accepted this fact, and left the females out of it.

Oh, and then there was more interpretive dancing. Balls on string, scarves, juggling — enough said.

Detrimental commentary aside, there were a number of pleasing and effective moments in the play. In one particular section, Cocchi managed to pin down a bit of her grandmother's magic during one of Novecento's monologues following the duel scene. Hirsch delivered a hauntingly beautiful, and perfectly humble, speech in which he wove a metaphor between pictures falling off of the wall for no reason at all, and "looking into a mirror and realizing that you don't love her anymore" and his sudden desire to step off the ship for the first time. For a moment, the beautiful microcosm that was Novecento's life aboard the *Virginian* became as mysterious and wonderful as the beginning of the play had promised. This small, but gorgeous, realization led lithely into an equally pure interaction between Tooney and his friend. When Novecento expresses his desire to walk on land, Tooney tells him, "I'll give you my camel hair coat and you'll look great walking down the gangway, in the camel hair coat." The repetition of the camelhair coat was perfectly boyish and swoonworthy in its own, small way.

I wish that the play had ended when, a few moments later, Novecento made his way down the plank, lights dim and surrounded by fog — the silhouette of his figure would have made for a striking final frame. Unfortunately, the play did not end with Novecento's ultimate decision to stay onboard. No, instead, the play devolved into its unfortunate habit of exposition and forced poetics. When Novecento ends up in heaven with two right arms, I was laughing, when I certainly did not want to be. I certainly didn't realize I would be getting a seemingly Nyquil-influenced lecture on theology when I walked into Wright Theatre.

Novecento "was a number, now it's a name," as one of the two female characters said at the start of the play. A number, a name — and it had the potential to be a great play, as well. Cocchi certainly had a beautiful concept, as well as her work cut out for her in making it materialize. Unfortunately for Cocchi and Co., the beauty and magic of Novecento's story just ended up a little lost in translation.

Middance provides lighthearted show

By Toren Hardee
STAFF WRITER

Middance, also known as Middlebury's come-one-come-all dance organization, put on its fall performance over two shows in the McCullough Social Space on the night of Friday, Nov. 20. Centered on choreographed hip-hop dancing, the performance also featured a variety of other styles, from tap to classical to swing to traditional Irish dancing. Loosely titled "Good Girls Gone Bad" — a theme which primarily manifested itself in a series of Oscar-worthy skits threaded throughout the show — the performance represented the culmination of a semester's practice of any duo or group interested in contributing a dance. The open-invitation nature of the performance meant it lacked the tightness of, say, a Riddim show, but the shows have a looser, easygoing feel, and are notable in that they provide a performance outlet for a more diverse range of style and people who love dance but do not necessarily have the experience or the time to commit to a group like Riddim.


Several of the dances performed by groups that do exist as independent clubs — On Tap, Irish Dance, and Classical Dance

Middlebury, for instance — were holdovers from the ISO Cultural and Global Rhythms shows. In a way, Middance was similar to these shows, but instead of focusing on an array of global cultural traditions, Middance showcased what's current in mainstream American hip-hop dance culture, replete with your pick of today's leaders in ringtone rap. Aurora Adams' '11 and Elise Hanks' '11 "You're A Jerk," for instance, was set to the New Boyz track of the same title, which is riding a wave of popularity derived from its tapping into the booming, Los Angeles-born cultural phenomenon known as "jerk" dancing, a distinct style resembling a collision between skater, hipster, and classic b-boy breakdance culture. Unfortunately, their dance did not actually feature any "jerkin," but its use of "You're A Jerk" certainly tapped into a zeitgeist in hip-hop dancing in 2009.

I'll confess: I don't "get" dance. Show me a book, film, painting, song, play, television program, poem, etc., and I'll rattle on about what I think the piece is trying to "say," or its influences or its various successes and failures. But when watching dance I suffer an incomprehension that leads me, in most cases, to boil down a piece's themes to either an-


ger or sexuality, or both. So with something like the Middance show, I read the dances as broader cultural rituals rather than parsing the formal language of individual pieces of choreography for meaning. But in a way, hip-hop dancing, swing, tap and Irish dancing are more meaningful as expressions of a culture or of individual mastery than as authorial expressions of an emotion or theme.

Seeing the Department of Dance's Fall Concert the next night was a different story — my inability to parse contemporary dance for deeper meaning led me to allow myself to simply be awash in the sensory beauty of a harmony between lights, music and movement, and comparing the show to the Middance one the night before was quite interesting. With Middance, the themes at hand were simple and accessible, the attitude usually resting somewhere on the narrow range of the dial between "sexy" and "badass." But the expectation is not for an emotionally weighty work of art; rather, one attends to see their friends have a great time dancing around onstage and showing their worth after a semester of hard work and practice. Any other insight — into emotion, or into culture, as I mentioned before — is icing on the cake.




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PANTHER SCOREBOARD				
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
11/29	Men's basketball	Johnson State	88-60 W	The men's squad saw offensive contributions from several different players and posted an impressive team shooting percentage of 55%.
11/27 11/28	Men's hockey	Plattsburgh Wisc.-Stout	3-1 L 7-3 W	In the extremely challenging PrimeLink Shootout the Panthers proved competitive with two of the top teams in the country.
11/29	Women's hockey	Colby	5-0 W	Led by the offensive contributions of Anna McNally '11, the Panthers shut out Colby and moved to 4-0 on the season.
11/22	Squash	Williams Tufts	9-0, 9-0 L 9-0, 6-3 W	Both the men's and women's teams were blanked by Williams before defeating Tufts later in the day.
11/24	Women's basketball	Norwich	65-62 L	The Panthers battled back late in the second half to bring the game within a point, but couldn't quite pull off a win.

BY THE NUMBERS	
4	Number of games women's basketball has won thus far, starting off the season with an undefeated streak.
7	Number of goals men's hockey scored in its win over seventh-ranked Wisconsin-Stout last weekend.
2	Number of undefeated teams remaining in the NFL after 12 weeks of play.
13	Rank of the women's squash team according to a recent US Squash poll.
49	Number of Middlebury athletes recently named as the NESCAC's fall 2009 All-Academic selections.

Editors' Picks				
Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Emma Gardner	Katie Siegner	John Sullivan, Hockey
Will any NFL team finish the regular season undefeated?	NO Peyton, I love you, but Eli's inconsistency has got to rub off at some point.	THE SAINTS They beat the Antichrist (the Pats), so they must be touched by an angel or something ...	YES The Saints beat the Patriots (who are awesome) and now have an easy schedule.	YES Looks like New Orleans will.
For how many games will women's hockey remain undefeated?	FIVE A gameless month of vacation is bound to put them out of whack.	SIX I think things may get messy when they play Plattsburgh ... I hope I'm wrong.	SEVEN It's my lucky number.	Hopefully all season.
Will the men's basketball shooting percentage go above 55% against Union on Saturday?	YES A 5-0 winning streak has given me faith in these guys.	YES GO BIG BILL.	YES The picture of Jamal Davis '11 dunking speaks for itself.	YES
Will A-Rod and Kate Hudson make it through the holiday season?	YES But she's too hot for him.	YES. True love knows no limits ... as long as Madonna "Kabbalah Queen" doesn't come back to town...	ABSOLUTELY NOT A-Rod sucks and deserves to be alone.	WHO CARES?
Which Panther will be the next NESCAC Player of the Week?	MATHIEU CASTONGUAY '13 These Quebec kids are on a roll.	ONE OF THE MANY CANADIANS ON THE HOCKEY TEAM.	ANNA MCNALLY '11 The women's hockey team has played four games and she already has six goals. Impressive.	DROLET Going back-to-back.
Career Record	25-21 (.543)	62-80 (.437)	17-29 (.370)	0-0 (.000)

Sweet Sixteen pits Middlebury soccer against JHU

By Kate Burchenal
STAFF WRITER

The impressive 2009 season came to a close for the Middlebury women's soccer squad as they fell to Johns Hopkins in a heart-breaking, one-goal game. Nevertheless, the team has much to be proud of in this season and much to look forward to in the seasons to come.

Coming off of two exciting NCAA playoff wins at home — the last home games of the seniors' careers — the Middlebury squad was excited to prove itself on the road. The trip to Johns Hopkins marked Middlebury's third appearance in the NCAA sectionals in the past six years.

The Blue Jays, however, were just as enthused and excited to be playing in the NCAA playoff spotlight. They came out strong and scored after only one minute of play. Hopkins' Erica Suter gathered the ball inside the 18-yard box and just managed to slip it past the outstretched arms of keeper Lauryn Torch '11. This goal was her sixth game-winning goal on the season.

Middlebury knew that the game was far from over and refused to lose any steam after the quick first goal. Fifteen minutes into the half, Paola Cabonargi '10 got a good chance on goal, but was denied by the Hopkins keeper.

The Blue Jays also kept up a barrage of

attempts on goal, but Torch was up to the task, effectively keeping the Panthers in the game. Torch successfully denied Suter's second attempt on net. Perhaps her most impressive save came with 10 minutes remaining in the first half as she made a remarkable diving save against a Hopkins first-year. Two more diving saves in the second half would bring Torch's tally up to eight influential saves on the day.

The waning time on the clock did not deter Middlebury, but rather gave them more fire and intensity. The team's best scoring opportunity came with just two minutes left in the contest as defender and tri-captain Anjuli Demers '10 dribbled the ball up the right sideline and struck a hard ball into the goal box. Hopkins' goalie was able to stop the ball above her head and refused Middlebury any chance at a rebound.

Hopkins' early goal proved insurmountable in the end, but the Middlebury women's soccer squad played with a lot of heart and should be proud of its effort.

"We were obviously disappointed with the result at Johns Hopkins, but that loss doesn't take away from all the fantastic successes they have achieved this year," said Coach Peter Kim.

Middlebury ended the season with the

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 19



Women's basketball season suffers a weak lift-off

By Katie Siegner
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite a 1-3 start to the season, the Middlebury women's basketball team should not be written off.

"Our record thus far does not reflect the team's potential by any means," said captain Kaitlyn Fallon '10.

The team turned in strong performances at the Swarthmore tournament in which they competed against Haverford and the host school, falling 59-42 and 60-57 to the two teams, respectively. In their match-up against Norwich on Tuesday, the Panthers again dropped a frustratingly close game, losing 65-62 to the home team.

The team shooting percentage has been low throughout these opening games, as they shot just .246 and .292 from the floor in the two games of the Swarthmore tournament. However, the Panthers displayed tenacity and determination in both contests, battling back against Swarthmore to bring the game to within three in the final minutes before ultimately falling short. Fallon stepped into her new leadership role with poise, earning all-tournament team honors and contributing 19 points to the team over the two games.

The Norwich game also featured some

bright moments for the Panthers. Three players scored in double figures, including Stephany Surette '12, who posted a double-double with 12 points and 17 rebounds. The team furthermore proved its heart and determination as it rebounded from a 14-point deficit in the second half to bring the game to within a point, and while their effort did not earn them a win, it is an encouraging sign that this team is nowhere near quitting.

Middlebury refused to be discouraged by these initial setbacks, but rather focused on gearing up for an intense week of three home games that could turn the season around.

"This is going to be an exciting week," said Maddie Moreau '12. "Hopefully we'll be able to bounce back."

The team has a lot of potential and Moreau is confident that they can make progress going forward into the season. This year's squad is extremely young, featuring a group of four talented first-years, four sophomores, two juniors who are returning from abroad in January and three seniors. They survived a demanding preseason of intense training together, and are coming back out this season with a new full-court press. Because of the challenging running regimen of the offseason, the Panthers are



Eleanor Horowitz, Photo Editor

Rookies Leah Kepping '13 and Stephany Surette '13 picked up their first win against Castleton.

now a faster and more aggressive team.

"We're much more athletic this year," affirmed Moreau. The team is also playing with a greater sense of urgency and effectively pressuring the ball on both ends of the court. The three games now under their belt have been learning experiences for the younger players, and the team expects to take these games and build off of them as the season progresses.

The Panthers do not enter NESCAC

play until January, and so are able to use these early games to assess their strengths and weaknesses as a team.

"We're just trying to gain experience quickly and learn from every game," said Fallon. "The team is hard-working and dedicated — it's just a matter of putting the pieces together." Going forward, the players' positive outlook and increased speed of play should help them be contenders in the NESCAC division.

Swimmers turn in solid performances

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

increased the competitiveness of the final event. The 200-yard freestyle relay team members — Remington, Nora Daly '13, Lauren Davidson '13 and Katherine Loftus '12 — proved their strength and composure as they snuck by the Springfield team by just over a second.

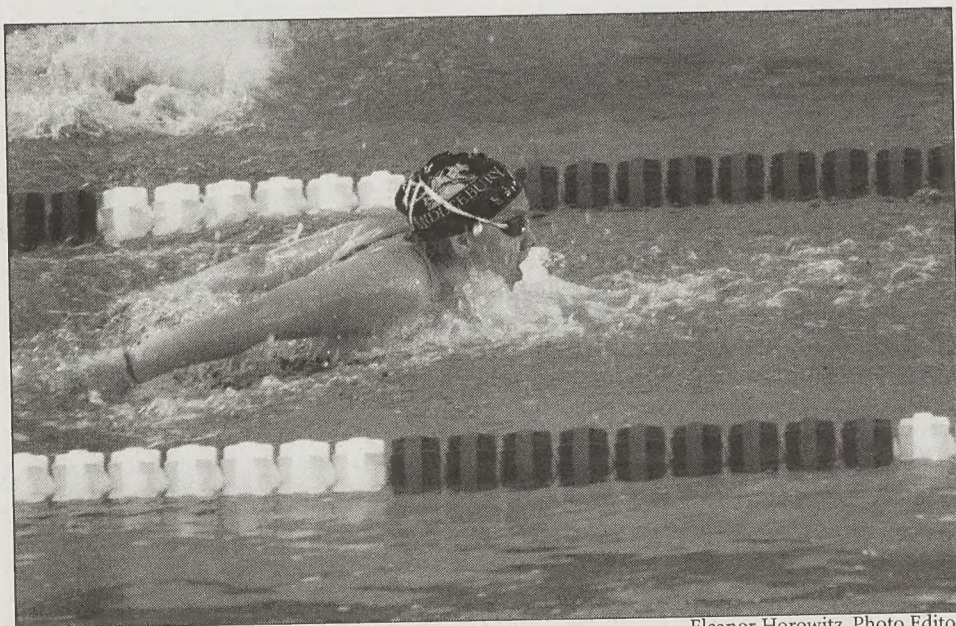
"Katie [Remington] was an exemplary swimmer for the young Middlebury team," remarked Soja. "She swam a strong leg in the relay, and the younger swimmers looked and continue to look to swim at her level."

Remington has set the standard for the relay team early on in the season and, through her leadership and passion for swimming, she has been a motivating force for her team, specifically the underclassmen.

"This weekend, we are competing against our biggest rival: the Amherst Lord Jeffs," said Soja. Middlebury has never defeated Amherst, but with the strength of this year's team, it has a chance to end the day victoriously.

"We just came off a nice, long Thanksgiving break, and so we all should be pretty well rested," said Remington. "But we need to make sure to focus a lot in order to prepare ourselves to have a grueling competition against the Lord Jeffs. We are really excited about this weekend and we feel that we have a better shot this year than any other year."

With the depth of the first-year class, and the leadership of co-captains Remington and Soja, the Middlebury women will give the Lord Jeffs a competitive day in the pool.



Eleanor Horowitz, Photo Editor

The swimmers and divers put up solid times two weeks ago in their two-day home opener.

Men's hockey takes on top teams at Primelink

By Ellen Halle
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's hockey team started the season with strong performances at Tufts and Connecticut College on November 21st and 22nd. The Tufts game ended in a 3-3 tie. The next day, Middlebury topped Connecticut College 5-3. After the first weekend of matches, the team was optimistic about the season but certainly recognized areas of its game that needed improvement.

This past weekend, the Panthers played in the PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout, a four-team tournament that was an important showing for the squad. After an unfortunate loss to Plattsburgh on Friday, the team rallied to beat Wisconsin-Stout 7-3.

Though the team returns many talented upperclassmen, several first-years are ready to make their mark on the ice this year. With ten first-years on the roster, the team will see some changes.

"I think we have a different look than past years just because of all the first-years. It's a lot of new faces and a different style than we're used to," said tri-captain Charlie Townsend '10, "so it should give us an exciting foundation to build from."

Indeed, several first-years are seeing playing time — and taking advantage of it. First-year Mathieu Dubuc's performances at Connecticut College and the consolation match at the PrimeLink Tournament were evidence of this as he ended both nights with two goals

and one assist.

"We got great efforts from a lot of the first-years this weekend and are pleased with their ability to contribute so early in their college careers," said tri-captain Bryan Curran '11. "It will be exciting to see them grow and have a big impact this season."

The season opener at Tufts was a bit of an eye-opener for the team. "Tufts was definitely a good learning experience," emphasized Townsend. "It was a great way to learn that anyone can beat anyone in our league."

The team came back the next night at Connecticut College with a victory in New London. Several players contributed goals and assists while goalie John Yanchek '12 totaled twenty-one saves in the net.

While most students headed home for Thanksgiving break, the men's hockey team stayed on campus preparing for the PrimeLink.

"The PrimeLink is always a really good opportunity for us to see where we are against the best competition in the country," Townsend related. "To be successful in the tournament it takes a complete commitment to do all the little things and things not every guy necessarily wants to do, like block shots and take a hit to make a play."

The Panthers faced third-ranked Plattsburgh on Friday, Nov. 27th, but unfortunately couldn't pull out a win. Despite getting off to an early lead, the Panthers saw Plattsburgh surge late in the game to take the win, 3-1.

"It was great to see us put sixty minutes

together and compete hard against one of the premier teams in the country," said Curran. "We would have liked to come away with a win, but if nothing else, the game showed us what we need to work on."

"We thought defensively; except for a few errors, we were pretty solid," added tri-captain John Sullivan '10. "We just could not bury our chances that we had."

In the consolation match the next day, Middlebury matched up against seventh-ranked Wisconsin-Stout in what proved to be a very physical contest. The Panthers broke open a tie after the first period and ultimately surged to a 7-3 victory. Martin Drolet '12 had an exceptional game, turning in three goals and two assists and garnering all-Tournament Honors. Goalie Max Kennedy '10 had his first career win, making twenty-three saves in the net.

"It wasn't the prettiest of wins, but it was good to see us battle one out even when we weren't at our best," Curran said.

Middlebury will now focus on its home opener against Southern Maine this Friday, Dec. 4 and the following day's game against the University of New England.

"It is a huge opportunity for us to get four points and some momentum heading into winter break," emphasized Sullivan. "The team is very excited about having the chance to play at home for the first time this year. We are really looking forward to it."

sportsbriefs

by Alyssa O'Gallagher, Sports Editor

Drolet '12 earns NESCAC player of the week honors

Following an impressive showing against some of the best teams in the nation at the PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout at Norwich, men's hockey forward Martin Drolet '12 was named NESCAC player of the week on Monday. The sophomore, who started his season with both a goal and assist in the Panthers' 5-3 victory over the Connecticut College Camels, played a part in six of the eight Panther goals tallied in tournament play last weekend.

The Quebec native, who led the Panthers last season with 19 goals and was second only to former teammate Jamie McKenna '09 in terms of total points, with 33, has resumed his characteristically prolific play early in the season.

The forward's presence was less evident in the team's first game, tallying an assist in the Panther's disappointing loss to third-ranked Plattsburgh State last Friday, but made up for a missable performance with two goals and three assists in the squad's dominating 7-3 win over Wisconsin-Stout the following day.

After last weekend's play Drolet has reclaimed his place at the top, leading the team with eight points total. With three goals, he ranks second on the team behind fellow forward Mathieu Dubuc '13, and with five assists he leads the squad at this point in the season.

As results have already proved, Drolet has avoided any sophomore slump, making a name for himself in the conference early on in regular season play. Expect him to continue playing at a high level, matching, if not surpassing, his rookie success.

Jane Handel '12 brings home postseason awards

Recognized earlier in the season as a NESCAC player of the week, women's volleyball player Jane Handel '12 has again earned conference recognition in the postseason.

The outside hitter has amassed quite a collection of accolades in her Panther career, being named NESCAC rookie of the year and American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) New England rookie of the year last season, as well as earning a place on the all-NESCAC second team and an honorable mention on the 2008 AVCA all-American list.

This season, Handel has been named to the first team all-NESCAC and the New England Women's Volleyball Association second team. For the second consecutive season she was honored as an AVCA honorable mention all-American, leading the Panthers to one of their more successful seasons in recent memory, finishing 20-6 and earning their 16th straight trip to NESCAC tournament play.

The sophomore quickly climbed record boards this year, holding the third-place record for most kills in a single season with 346 and second-place record for all time kills per game with 3.6, placing her fifth in the NESCAC this season on the kills/game list. Averaging .45 service aces per game, Handel was an important asset offensively for the Panthers, and stood out defensively as well, averaging 2.98 digs/game and finishing the year with 39 blocks.

Truly one of the Panthers' most valuable players, her prolific play throughout the season is certainly worthy of such profuse praise and the team is undoubtedly grateful to have such a key player returning for two more exciting years.



Women's season ends on a high note

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

very impressive record of 14-4-2, and tri-captain Demers says that this season has "set a standard for Middlebury women's soccer in the future."

"This team was the most talented I've played with in my four years at Middlebury," said tri-captain Lindsay Walker '10, and Middlebury supporters were not the only ones to recognize this ability.

Throughout the season, two players (Annie Rowell '11 and Amy Schlueter '13) were recognized as NESCAC players of the week; four players (Rowell, Walker, Margaret Owen '10, and Jenny Galgano '10) were named to the NESCAC All-Conference second team; two players (Demers and Torch) were honored on the first team; and Coach Peter Kim was named the NESCAC coach of the year.

"We were strong all over the field," said Coach Kim, and these accolades

strongly support this statement.

"The team was blessed with phenomenal senior leadership," added Kim. However, Middlebury's squad also featured incredible depth. While the women will definitely miss their eight seniors, they have a lot to look forward to in the players coming up through the ranks. Kim is also quick to acknowledge the "outstanding performances from our younger players." 13 girls notched goals this season for the Panthers, an impressive spread few other teams enjoy, and three of those 13 were first-years.

But even after all the accomplishments and honors are taken into account, Coach Kim recognizes that it all comes down to the fact that "the team remained the same strong family that is the hallmark of this program."

As any fan can attest, the women's soccer squad has been a joy to watch and support and turned in a phenomenal performance this season.

Cross country goes big, then goes home

By Emma Hodge
STAFF WRITER

Approximately 15 teammates embarked on a 12-hour drive from Middlebury to Cleveland, Ohio two weeks ago to cheer on the women's cross country team and Michael Schmidt '12 as they competed at NCAA Nationals. The women ended up finishing in fourth place overall, trailing behind Wisconsin Eau Claire, Saint Lawrence and Calvin. Meanwhile, Schmidt individually placed 116th in a race of the nation's top 276 Division III male runners. This meet marked the culmination of the Panthers' cross country season.

The course for this competition was particularly difficult; set on a golf course that was muddy and had bad footing and constant rolling hills, the runners had their work cut out for them.

"It was one of the hardest courses I've ever seen," said captain Annie Sullivan '10. "The hills made it so that there was no point on the course at which you could take a break."

Despite the difficult conditions, the women's team had an outstanding performance.

The squad was led by first-year Addie Tousley '13, who placed 21st overall and earned all-American honors with a time of 22:43. Additionally, Tousley '13 was the second-highest finishing rookie in the race. This was an incredible performance for Tousley, who had been consistently improving and contributing to the team throughout the season. In second place for Middlebury was first-year Sarah Lange '13 with a time of 22:54. Again, Lange's finish was incredible for her rookie season, but not unexpected given the strength of her performances leading up to nationals. She was only seconds away from also receiving all-American honors. Sophia Spring '11 finished in third place for the Panthers, and 44th place overall, with a time of 23:13. Elise Moody-Roberts '12 was Middlebury's fourth finisher and 60th overall with a time of 23:33. The final scorer for Middlebury was Amanda Quinlan '10 with a time of 23:52.

Additional runners for the women's squad who did not score were Claire McIlvennie '12 and Erin Toner '11. McIlvennie, typically a top finisher for Middlebury, had a particularly tough race. Within the first mile, another run-

ner stepped on the heel of the sophomore's shoe, causing it to fall off and add important seconds to her time. Despite this setback, McIlvennie fought back and emerged from being at the very end of the pack to finishing in 106th place. This finish was demonstrative of McIlvennie's hardworking and determined character, which has contributed so much to the Middlebury cross country program.

"Our fourth-place finish was awesome," said Sullivan. "We really beat all the teams that we had set out to beat, and the competitors we lost to were very strong." Middlebury outran MIT and Johns Hopkins, both of which had beaten the Panthers earlier in the season. Additionally, the women finished ahead of conference rival Williams.

Despite being pleased with the finish of their season at nationals, the women are beginning to look ahead to next fall. They will lose only one senior from the top seven runners, and will look to their rookies to turn in stellar sophomore performances. Next year, the Middlebury cross country program will remain a talented force in the field.

Women's hockey quickly moves to 4-0 on the season

By Emma Gardner
STAFF WRITER

The women's hockey team had much to be thankful for this weekend as the Panthers moved to 4-0 on the season, taking on two Maine teams in post-Thanksgiving play. Moving up a rank to third in Division III over the weekend, the women picked up a 4-3 win over Bowdoin on Saturday before bruising Colby with a 5-0 game on Sunday. Appropriately, the squad remains behind its perennial rivals in the standings — namely, Amherst and SUNY Plattsburgh. Though the rankings reveal no surprises, it looks like this winter, fans will once again see some neck-and-neck competition among the top three programs in Division III hockey.

At Bowdoin, the squad faced the closest game so far this season, having previously held off Conn. College 3-1 and Hamilton 6-0. While the Polar Bears entered the game 1-1 on the season, the erratic movements of the puck made for an unexpectedly tight game. Moreover, Bowdoin's head coach Stacy Wilson had put together a strong lineup in anticipation of facing the tough Panther squad.

Contributions came from all sides on the Middlebury front, as the Panthers quickly put numbers on the scoreboard, knocking a pair of goals in within the opening minutes of the first period. The first shot around the net came off the stick of Maggie Melberg '12, hitting the goalie before finding the back of the net.

The second goal came less than three minutes later, this time rebounding off the Bowdoin defense after being knocked in the zone by Julia Ireland '11.

"Julia Ireland was strong on the puck in the Bowdoin game, and was able to capitalize twice to put Middlebury up 3-1," said Melberg. "As the game was winding down, Grace Waters worked hard and sniped a shot in the top corner, with a nice pass from her line-mate, Julia. The game was close, but even though we let Bowdoin back in the game, we persevered and left Brunswick with a win."

Ashley Bairos '10 scored the game-winner with an assist from Melberg halfway through the final period, when the Polar Bears had managed to tie up the game with a late surge.

In goal, Lexi Bloom '11 put up

a strong defense, stopping 16 of 19 shots off the Bowdoin players.

"The Bowdoin game was really exciting," said Bloom. "They've put together a great team this year, and they will definitely be big NESCAC competitors. The game got a bit hectic at times, but everyone stepped it up in the third period and we held out for the win."

Though the Polar Bears demanded strong play from the Panthers, it was evident the next day in Watertown that the women were nowhere near exhaustion. Holding off Colby's offensive advances entirely, Middlebury catapulted the puck into the goal over and over again, leaving goaltender Filomania Falcucci overwhelmed with 34 shots to block. While she saved an impressive 29, the five that made it in left the score remarkably lopsided.

"The Colby game was well fought and we were finally able to put the puck in the net during our power plays," noted Melberg. "Nora Bergman played amazingly and with the tag team of Bairos and McNally, we were able to put points on the board. With Lani Wright in net we dominated the game."



Zach Doleac, Online Editor

Forward Anna McNally '11 played a part in all five goals against Colby.

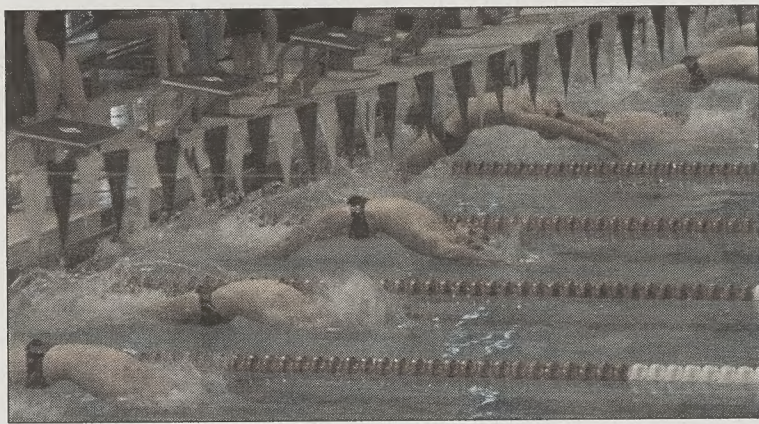
The game also saw action from first-year Maggie Woodward, whose first career goal in the second put the Panthers up 2-0 and launched an onslaught of offensive play for the rest of the game. One thing was clear: the Panthers have come together nicely early in the season.

"We are really becoming a cohe-

sive unit on the ice," said Bergman, adding that "the first-years blend in already, which is great."

"We have plenty to improve on, but there were some really good moments of play from the whole team. I think everyone is looking forward to the Panther/Cardinal classic after break."

Swimming and diving plunges into the season



Eleanor Horowitz, Photo Editor
led by sophomore Kazu Asaga '12.

By Molly West
STAFF WRITER

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams opened the season with a few intense meets at home the weekend of November 21-22, competing against Tufts and Connecticut College on Saturday and Springfield on Sunday. The Panther men put up a strong fight, but unfortunately were unable to pull off a victory. The women proved their strength, however, ending both days as the victors.

"We are not disappointed with the weekend," replied John Dillon '11. "We are looking to the end of the season and we are all in good spirits."

Although the team was not able to pull off a win, there were still many strong individual accomplishments. Kazu Asaga '12 won both the 50- and 100-yard backstroke on Sunday, and John Dillon '11 emerged victorious two days in a row in the 50- and 100-yard butterfly and the 100-yard individual medley.

The women started the season off strong this weekend, putting up a record of 3-0. They are excited and ready to continue to win in their upcoming meets, but realize that it will take continuous work and improvement to do so.

"Beginning the season 3-0 is a great feeling," said captain Katie Soja '10. "It was great to see such an impressive performance from our first-years. Many of [them] came out with important wins for us."

The rookie swimmers helped the Middlebury women defeat all three opponents on the weekend, and are now being looked on to contribute in the upcoming meets.

"Both days this weekend were very competitive," Katie Remington '10 reported. "Sunday, however, came down to the last race. If we lost the last event [the relay], we would have lost the meet."

The intensity and passion that filled the natatorium due to the closeness in the women's meet

SEE SWIMMING, PAGE 21

Basketball starts off strong for men

By Steve Hardin
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers' quick and dominant start to the season — four wins against non-conference teams in one week — has been characterized by large margins of victory and an impressive depth from the injury-plagued team.

"Sweep the week," said Bill Greven '10, one of the team's senior players, when asked to comment on the team's most recent victory against Johnson State.

It was clear from this response that he was far too focused to provide any further insight. Regardless, any worries that the Panthers would struggle out of the gate, playing without injured co-captains Kevin Kelleher '10 and Tim Edwards '10

and losing three starters from last year's team, were quickly put to rest.

The Panthers began the season with two wins at the Equinox Classic, where both Nolan Thompson '13 and Jamal Davis '11 received All-Tournament honors. Since then, the team posted a blowout victory at home against St. Joseph's before the equally impressive 28-point win over Johnson State to round out the first two weeks of the year.

"We have faced adversity this year so far with injuries, but our first-years have really stepped up," said Ryan Sharry '12. "We look to get stronger as the year moves on and are excited to defend our NESCAC championship."

Undoubtedly, Sharry was referring to the backcourt duo of first-

years Jake Wolfen '13 and Nolan Thompson '13, who have already made strong contributions to the team. Sharry currently leads the squad with 12.5 points and 7.3 rebounds per game, and is part of a talented starting front court along with Ryan Wholey '11 and Davis that also features the 6'11" Andrew Locke '11 coming off the bench. Locke finished the first four games with 11 blocks, establishing himself as a defensive presence in the paint reminiscent of a young Manute Bol — the legendary 7'7" Sudanese NBA player who scorched the courts in the '80s and '90s.

Indeed, the squad seems to be faring well despite the considerable setbacks of having both captains out of commission. The team, which completed a record season last year, taking part in extensive post-season play and capturing the NESCAC title, seems fully capable of living up to its recently-minted reputation this winter. From the number of fans packing the Pepin bleachers to Davis's recent dunk at Swarthmore, it is clear that Panther basketball has become a team to watch this season, giving hockey a run for its money as the crowd-pleasing winter sport.

In the upcoming week, the Panther team has home games tonight at 7 p.m. against St. Lawrence and Saturday at 3 p.m. vs. Union, who are 2-2 and 1-2, respectively. Both teams should present a worthy challenge, however, as St. Lawrence showed in its last outing with a momentum-grasping 71-41 win against a hapless New York City Tech team. Following the St. Lawrence game, Middlebury won't play another game until the end of the month, when they play Rensselaer on Dec. 30.



Courtesy

Jamal Davis '11 looks down from the top as the Panthers took on the Swarthmore Garnet on the road in Pennsylvania two weeks ago.

this week in sports

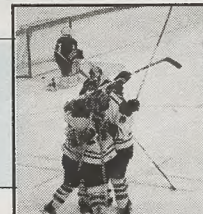
Swimming & Diving

Turn inside to see how the swimming and diving teams are shaping up this season, page 18.



games to watch

Women's hockey Panther/Cardinal Classic, January 3-4 at Kenyon Arena



Men's hockey

Read about how the men's hockey team faced some big competition this past weekend, page 20.